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Historical Sketch,

OF STEPS TAKEN TO BRING ABOUT

AN UNION

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA

WITH THE

CANADA PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

In 1866 and 1870.

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By Mr. Becket.

UNION OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA

WITH THE

Canada Presbyterian Church.

A cordial union of the different branches of the Presbyterian Churches in Canada, has for some years past been an object of deep solicitude by many; but ever since the union of the Free Church with the United Presbyterian in 1861, that solicitude became greatly intensified. Between 1864 and 1866 frequent interviews took place between Elders of the different churches in this city, as to the best means of bringing about this most desirable object; which resulted in a united meeting of Elders, in the house of J. C. Becket, No. 12 Brunswick Street, Beaver Hall, when were present representatives from the different Presbyterian Churches in the city. After a full and free interchange of sentiment, there seemed to be entire harmony of opinion, and the following Resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved,—"That J. Redpath, T. A. Gibson, J. S. Hunter, J. C. Becket, and Archibald Ferguson, Mansfield Street, be a Sub-Committee to draw up Resolutions, to be presented at our next meeting."

The next meeting took place on the 14th of March, and the following is the minute of said meeting:—

At an adjourned meeting of Elders held this evening in the house of Mr. J. C. Becket, to consider the question of Union between all the Presbyterian Churches of Canada, the various Congregations were represented by the undermentioned Elders. Those marked thus (*) being absent from the Meeting, desire to record their approval of the Resolutions.

St. Andrew's Church.—J. S. Hunter, *James Goudie, *Thomas Watson, James Mitchell, *M. Ramsay,

Erskine Church.—G. Rogers, J. C. Becket, L. Paton, W. King, D. Mackay, *James Walker.

St. Paul's Church.—W. Christie, A. Ferguson, Mansfield Street; G. Macdonald, T. A. Gibson, W. Ross, *John Greenshields, *George M'Kenzie.

Knox's Church.—W. M'Bean, E. Moore, W. Rowan.

Cote St. Church.—J. Redpath, A. Ferguson, Belmont Street, A. Stevenson, *F. W. Torrance, *J. Campbell, *A. McGoun, *J. Plimsoll.

Cote des Neiges.—W. Boa, W. Brown.

Mr. Redpath being called to the chair, requested Mr. Rogers to open the meeting with prayer. Mr. J. C. Becket was appointed Secretary. The minutes of last meeting, approving of the Union, were read and confirmed.

The Chairman stated that the Sub-Committee appointed at last meeting had prepared the following Resolutions for the consideration of this meeting :—

Resolved, 1. That it is the unanimous judgment of this meeting, that whatever differences of opinion may have existed, at the time of the disruption of the Church of Scotland for following the same course in Canada, the period has arrived when the Church in this country, can be united with great advantage to the interests of Christianity, especially of our common faith, and without interference with the conscientious convictions of any of its members.

2. That this desirable end may be accomplished in accordance with Presbyterian principles, the Elders now present agree to bring the subject before their respective sessions, for their consideration, and with a view to general Sessional approval of such proposed Union; and they also pledged themselves, to use every other possible and legitimate method to bring about its consummation.

3. That this meeting is encouraged and fortified in the steps which it has now taken, by the example and experience of their Presbyterian brethren in Australia, who have been lately united into one body, under one General Assembly with the approval of the Supreme Ecclesiastical Courts in Scotland.

4. That a joint Committee of Elders be and is hereby appointed to issue these resolutions to all office-bearers of the Presbyterian Congregations in Canada, with a view to obtain a general expression of opinion upon the subject

Hunter & Mitchell in favor of Union in March 66. Thom'll

herein submitted, and that the Committee consist of the following gentlemen, namely: J. C. Becket, A. Fergusor, Mansfield Street; John Redpath, J. S. Hunter, W. Rowan.

After a full and free discussion, the above resolutions were unanimously adopted, and in accordance therewith the Committee appointed to carry them out, were requested to prepare a circular and have them sent as soon as possible, in order that the mind of the Churches may be ascertained, on this very important subject, before the approaching meeting of Synod.

CIRCULAR.

Dear Brethren:

The above resolutions testify to the unanimity which prevails, among the lay Elders of all the Presbyterian Churches in this City, with regard to the great question of Union.

Believing then as we do that such Union must tend to promote the Redeemer's Kingdom, and to the advancement of His Church in these Provinces, we trust and pray that the scheme may meet with a hearty approval and be speedily consummated, throughout the length and breadth of the land. We are assuredly far from being indifferent to the basis and conditions on which it must finally be effected, but consider a sessional discussion of these at present, to be premature and unnecessary. Once let the fact be established, that the Ministers, Elders and members of the Churches generally, are convinced of the desirability of being united, and we feel assured that no insurmountable obstacles will present themselves.

We must assure you, our brethren in the Eldership throughout the Provinces, we have only ventured to take the initiative, from a conviction that further delay would be prejudicial to the cause. We entreat therefore that you will be kind enough, to take the earliest opportunity of laying the above resolutions before your brethren in session and let us know the result without delay. Replies may be addressed to the undersigned, Con. of Com., John C. Becket.

The next meeting took place on the 29th of May, by which time fully two-thirds of each of the two branches of the Church

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sought to be united, sent in answers, highly approving of the resolutions submitted. This was a result, which the most sanguine did not anticipate; it only proved, however, that the time was at hand when the Union sought, would be accomplished. The next step to be taken was for each representative Elder, in his place, in Presbytery and Synod, to push forward the Union.

The carrying out of the above resolution, was almost entirely frustrated, by the absence of all the city representative Elders from Synod, owing to the first Fenian Raid, which took place in both Provinces, just about the time the two Synods were to meet. In 1867 & 1868, however, the matter was again revived, and decided progress made, so that in the meetings of Synod in 1869, the seed sown in 1866 did bear fruit, even to an "hundred fold;" as evidenced by the following extract from the Minutes of the first meeting of the Joint Committee, appointed on the subject of Union by the Supreme Courts of the following Churches, which met at Montreal, and within St. Paul's Church there, on the 28th September, 1870, viz: The Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland—The Canada Presbyterian Church—The Presbyterian Church of the Maritime Provinces in connexion with the Church of Scotland, and the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces met ording to the call of the respective Conveners of the Committees.

Present, the Rev. Dr. Cook, the Rev. Principal Snodgrass, D. D., Ministers, with the Hon. Alexander Morris, Mr. James Croil, and Mr. Niel McDougall, Elders of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland; the Rev. Dr. Taylor, the Rev. Robert Ure, the Rev. Dr. Topp, Ministers, with the Hon. John McMurrich, Mr. David Mackay and Mr. Thomas McRae, Elders of the Canada Presbyterian Church; the Rev. Allan Pollock, the Rev. G. M. Grant, and the Rev. Donald McRae Ministers, with the Hon. John Robertson, the Hon. John Holmes, and Mr. James J. Bremner, Elders of the Church of the Maritime Provinces in connection with the Church of Scotland; the Rev. Dr. Bayne; the Rev. James Bennett, and the Rev. G. Christie, Ministers, with Mr. Henry Webster, and Mr. David Laird, Elders of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces.

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The Rev. Dr. Cook was appointed Chairman, and the Rev. Dr. Topp, Secretary. The meeting was constituted with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Taylor. Extract minutes of the Supreme Courts were read, as also the letter of the Rev. Dr. Ormiston of Hamilton, on the ground of which, and of the sentiments expressed therein, the said action of these Churches was taken. The Chairman opened the business by referring to the desirableness and expediency of Union between the Churches represented by this meeting, inasmuch as they hold the same doctrine and government and discipline.

After five sederunts, during which prayer formed a prominent part, the meeting appointed the following committee, viz:—The Chairman and Secretary, with the Conveners of the respective Committees, the Hon. Alexander Morris and the Hon. John McMurrich, to prepare a document embodying the results of these meetings which might be submitted to the respective Churches.

At the Meeting in the afternoon of Sept. 30, the Committee appointed in the forenoon, reported that the following minute, drawn up in accordance with the instructions given them, should be adopted as the closing minute of the Joint Committee. This was unanimously agreed to, and is as follows:—

"The members of this Committee in bringing their deliberations to a close, desire to record their great satisfaction, at the entire harmony of sentiment which has prevailed among them on the subject of Union, and generally with regard to all matters of detail affecting the practicability of the contemplated Union, and now, in the belief that the hopes of the negotiating Churches will through the blessing of God be realized, unanimously resolve to report to their respective Churches that the following articles be recommended to be adopted as the basis of Union for the United Church, to be known under the name of 'the Presbyterian Church of British North America.'

I. That the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, being the infallible word of God, are the supreme standard of Faith and manners.

II. That the Westminster Confession of Faith shall be the subordinate standard of this Church, it being understood, 1. That

full liberty of opinion in regard to the power and duty of the Civil Magistrate in matters of religion, as set forth in said confession, be allowed, and 2. That the use of the Shorter Catechism be enjoined as an authoritative exposition of doctrine for the instruction of the people.

III. That this Church shall maintain fraternal relations with Presbyterian Churches holding the same doctrine, and government and discipline, and that Ministers and Probationers shall be received into the Church, subject to such regulations as the Church may from time to time adopt.

The joint Committee, in order to bring the other matters considered by them under the notice of their respective Churches, resolve to report as they hereby do, by transmitting the minutes duly signed and attested."

The Committee unanimously resolved to meet at eight o'clock p. m. to engage in religious services, in prayer and thanksgiving to God, for the spirit of unity and brotherly love, poured out upon them in all their deliberations.

At same place and date, 8 o'clock p. m. The joint Committee met and was constituted with prayer. Rev. Dr. Taylor in the chair.

This being a meeting mainly for devotional exercises, Mr. Pollock read the 37th chap. of Ezekiel, after which, the Rev. Dr. Jenkins being present, was requested to engage in prayer. After one or two addresses from Members, the Chairman read part of 17th chap. of John, and Mr. Christie afterwards engaged in prayer.

The Committee then unanimously resolved to record their thanks to the Trustees of this Church for their kindness in granting them the use of it for their meetings, and also the Christian friends in Montreal, who have with so much heartiness and generosity extended their hospitality to the members of these Committees.

After singing the last two verses of the 72d Psalm, and the Benediction by the Chairman, the meeting was closed.

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MINUTES OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES,

IN THE

PROVINCES OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA,

ON THE SUBJECT OF UNION.

At Montreal, and within St. Paul's Church there, on the 28th September, 1870, the Committees appointed on the subject of Union by the Supreme Courts of the following Churches, viz: The Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland --The Canada Presbyterian Church—The Presbyterian Church of the Maritime Provinces in connexion with the Church of Scotland, and the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces met according to the call of the respective Conveners of these Committees.

Present: The Rev. Dr. Cook, the Rev. Principal Snodgrass, D. D., Ministers, with the Hon. Alexander Morris, Mr. James Croil, and Mr. Niel McDougall, Elders of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland; The Rev. Dr. Taylor, The Rev. Robert Ure, The Rev. Dr. Topp, Ministers, with The Hon. John McMurrich, Mr. David Mackay and Mr. Thomas McRae, Elders of the Canada Presbyterian Church; The Rev Allan Pollok, The Rev. G. M. Grant, and the Rev. Donald McRae Ministers, with the Hon. John Robertson, the Hon. John Holmes, and Mr. James J. Bremner, Elders of the Church of the Maritime Provinces in connexion with the Church of Scotland; The Rev. Dr. Bayne; The Rev. James Bennett, and the Rev. G. Christie, Ministers with Mr. Henry Webster, and Mr. David Laird, Elders of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces.

The Rev. Dr. Cook was appointed Chairman, and the Rev Dr. Topp, Secretary.

The meeting was constituted with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Taylor.

Extract minutes of the Supreme Courts of the various Churches appointing the Committees were read, as also the letter of the Rev. Dr. Ormiston of Hamilton, on the ground of which, and of the sentiments expressed therein, the said action of these Churches was taken.

The Chairman opened the business by referring to the desirableness and expediency of Union between the Churches represented by this meeting, inasmuch as they hold the same doctrine and government and discipline.

I. All present were of opinion that for many and strong reasons, it was desirable to have a union of the Presbyterian Churches within British North America, and that there was on the ground of principle no obstacle to said Union, if it were accomplished on the basis of the Holy Scriptures, as the Supreme Standard of faith and manners, with the Westminster Confession of Faith, as the Subordinate Standard, it being understood, 1st, That full liberty of opinion in regard to the power and duty of the civil Magistrate in matters of religion, as set forth in said Confession, be allowed; and 2nd, That the use of the Shorter Catechism be enjoined as an authoritative Exposition of doctrine for the instruction of our people.

II. With regard to the name by which the United Church shall be known, it was proposed and unanimously agreed to, that the name should be "The Presbyterian Church of British North America."

III. The meeting also resolved to record their opinion that this United Church should maintain fraternal relations with Presbyterian Churches holding the same doctrine and government and discipline—and that ministers and probationers should be received into the Church subject to such regulations as the Church may from time to time adopt.

IV. It was also agreed that the general polity, laws and forms of procedure be settled by the United Church, and compiled from

such rules as may have been in force in the respective Churches, or from other books of Presbyterian law and order—and that in the meantime Church Courts conduct their business according to the recognized principles and forms of the Presbyterian Church.

Adjourned to meet at 3 o'clock and closed with prayer.

JOHN COOK, D. D., *Chairman.*

ALEXANDER TOPP, D. D., *Secretary.*

At 3 o'clock, same day and place, the joint Committee met and was constituted with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Bayne. Sederunt as before. The Rev. Dr. Cook, Chairman, the Rev. Dr. Topp, Secretary.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and sustained.

V. There was now submitted for the consideration of the meeting the question of the application of the Temporalities' Fund in the hands of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland. The unanimous opinion was, that the vested rights of the present beneficiaries of the Fund must be conserved. The matter of a Sustentation Fund was brought up in connexion with the question now under discussion. After lengthened deliberation it was resolved that, whilst a general Sustentation Fund may not be in the meantime practicable, though highly desirable, the efforts of the United Church should be strongly directed in favour of Home Missionary or Church Extension purposes. And as to the future appropriation of the Temporalities' Fund as vested rights gradually lapse, it was thought best to express no special opinion at present, inasmuch as the decision on the subject rests with the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland.

VI. With regard to Modes of Worship, it was, after some conversation on the subject, resolved, that the practice presently followed by Congregations in the matter of worship, should be allowed, and that further action in connexion therewith be left to the legislation of the United Church.

VII. The subject of Collegiate Education was then taken up. There was full expression of sentiment thereon; but the hour of

adjournment, 5 o'clock, having arrived, the meeting adjourned and closed with prayer.

JOHN COOK, D. D., *Chairman.*

ALEXANDER TOPP, D. D., *Secretary.*

At same place on the 29th September, 1870, the Joint Committee again met, and was constituted with prayer by the Rev. James Bennett.

Sederunt as before. The Rev. Dr. Cook, Chairman, the Rev. Dr. Topp, Secretary.

The minutes of previous meeting were read and sustained.

The subject of Collegiate Education was resumed, and consideration of the same continued till the hour of adjournment, 1 o'clock.

The meeting then adjourned and closed with prayer.

JOHN COOK, D. D., *Chairman.*

ALEXANDER TOPP, D. D., *Secretary.*

Same day and place, 3 o'clock, The Joint Committee met and was constituted with prayer by the Rev. Donald McRae.

Sederunt as before. The Rev. Dr. Cook, Chairman. The Rev. Dr. Topp, Secretary.

The subject of Collegiate Education was resumed

Several motions were proposed; but the consideration of the subject was deferred.

The meeting then adjourned at 5 o'clock, and closed with prayer.

JOHN COOK, D. D., *Chairman.*

ALEXANDER TOPP, D. D., *Secretary.*

At same place, on the 30th September, 1870, the Joint Committee met and was constituted with prayer by the Rev. G. Christie.

Sederunt as before. The Rev. Dr. Cook, Chairman. The Rev. D. Topp, Secretary. The minutes of the two previous meetings, were read and sustained.

The meeting resumed consideration of the subject of Collegiate Education, when the following motion proposed by the Hon. Alexander Morris, and seconded by the Hon. John Robertson was unanimously adopted, viz. The joint Committee resolve to recommend that the earnest attention of the United Church should be given at the earliest possible moment to secure the maintenance in thorough efficiency of a Presbyterian University, and of such Theological Halls as may be found requisite to provide the necessary facilities for the education of the Ministers of the Church in the various Provinces of British North America.

The matter of a Widows and Orphans' Fund for the United Church was then taken up, when it was unanimously agreed to recommend the establishment of an efficient Widows and Orphans' Fund for the United Church, to which all Ministers and Congregations will be expected to contribute, and that in the meantime the services of an actuary be secured to value the different Funds now in existence, and to submit an equitable plan for the establishment and future management of the Fund.

The meeting, appointed the following committee, viz :—The Chairman and Secretary, with the Conveners of the respective Committees, the Hon. Alexander Morris and the Hon. John McMurrich, to prepare a document embodying the results of these meetings which might be submitted to the respective Churches.

Adjourned and closed with prayer.

JOHN COOK, D. D., *Chairman.*
ALEXANDER TOPP, D. D., *Secretary.*

At Montreal and within St. Paul's Church there at 5 o'clock 30th September 1870. The joint Committee met after adjournment and was constituted with prayer by the Chairman.

Sederunt the Rev. Dr. Cook, the Rev. Principal Snodgrass, D.D. Hon. Alexander Morris, Mr. Croil, Mr. Sheriff McDougall, the Rev. Dr. Taylor, the Rev. Dr. Topp, the Rev. Robert Ure, Hon. John McMurrich, Mr. David Mackay, Mr. Thomas McRae, the Rev.

Allan Pollok, the Rev. G. M. Grant, the Rev. Donald McRae, Hon. John Robertson, Hon. John Holmes, Mr. James J. Bremner, Rev. Dr. Bayne, Rev. James Bennett, the Rev. G. Christie, Mr. Henry Webster and Mr. David Laird.

The Rev. Dr Cook, Chairman, the Rev. Dr. Topp, Secretary.

The minutes of the previous Meeting were read and sustained.

The Committee appointed in the forenoon, reported that the following minute, drawn up in accordance with the instructions given them, should be adopted as the closing minute of the Joint Committee. This was unanimously agreed to.

"The members of this Committee in bringing their deliberations to a close, desire to record their great satisfaction at the entire harmony of sentiment which has prevailed among them on the subject of Union, and generally with regard to all matters of detail affecting the practicability of the contemplated Union, and now in the belief that the hopes of the negotiating Churches will through the blessing of God be realized, unanimously resolve to report to their respective Churches that the following articles be recommended to be adopted as the basis of Union for the United Church to be known under the name of "the Presbyterian Church of British North America."

1. That the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testament being the infallible word of God are the supreme standard of Faith and manners.

2. That the Westminster Confession of Faith shall be the subordinate standard of this Church, it being understood, 1. That full liberty of opinion in regard to the power and duty of the Civil Magistrate in matters of religion, as set forth in said confession be allowed, and 2. That the use of the Shorter Catechism be enjoined as an authoritative exposition of doctrine for the instruction of the people.

3. That this Church shall maintain fraternal relations with Presbyterian Churches holding the same doctrine, and government and discipline, and that Ministers and Probationers shall be received into the Church, subject to such regulations as the Church may from time to time adopt.

The joint Committee, in order to bring the other matters con-

sidered by them under the notice of their respective Churches resolve to report as they hereby do, by transmitting the minutes duly signed and attested."

The Committee unanimously resolved to meet at 8 o'clock this evening to engage in religious services, in prayer and thanksgiving to God for the spirit of unity and brotherly love, poured out upon them in all their deliberations.

Adjourned and closed with prayer.

JOHN COOK, D.D., Chairman.

ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D. Secretary.

At same place and date 8 o'clock p.m. The joint Committee met and was constituted with prayer.

Sederunt the Rev. Drs. Taylor, Snodgrass, Bayne, Topp, the Rev. Messrs. Christie, Grant, Pollok, McRae, Hon. Alexander Morris, Messrs. Croil, Mackay, Webster, McDougall, Laird.

The Rev. Dr. Taylor, Chairman, *p.t.* the Rev. Dr. Topp, Secretary.

This being a meeting mainly for devotional exercises, Mr. Polloh read the 37th chap. of Ezekiel, after which the Rev. Dr. Jenkins being present was requested to engage in prayer. After one or two addresses from Members the Chairman read part of 17th chap. of John, and Mr. Christie afterwards engaged in prayer.

The Committee then unanimously resolved to record their thanks to the Trustees of this Church for their kindness in granting them the use of it for their meetings, and also to the Christian friends in Montreal, who have with so much heartiness and generosity extended their hospitality to the members of these Committees.

After singing the last two verses of the 72d Psalm, and after the Benediction by the Chairman the meeting was closed.

W TAYLOR, D.D., Chairman, *p. t.*

ALEXANDER, TOPP, D.D., Secretary.

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1871

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MINUTES OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES

IN THE

PROVINCES OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

ON THE

SUBJECT OF UNION.

At Montreal, and within St. Paul's Church there, on the 26th September, 1871, the Committees on the subject of Union, appointed by the Supreme Courts of the following Churches, viz.: The Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland—The Canada Presbyterian Church—The Presbyterian Church of the Maritime Provinces in connexion with the Church of Scotland—and the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces—met on the call of the respective Conveners of these Committees, as a Joint Committee for the promotion of Union.

The Rev. Dr. Cook, Chairman of the Joint Committee, which met in Montreal at this time last year, having opened the meeting with prayer, intimated that it now devolved upon the Committee to appoint a Chairman and a Secretary. It was then moved, seconded, and unanimously agreed to, that Dr. Cook be appointed Chairman, and that Dr. Topp be appointed Secretary.

Extract Minutes of the proceedings of the Supreme Courts of the aforesaid Churches were then read, re-appointing their Committees, with the addition of three ministers and three elders to each of them; and the names of the members of said Committees having been called, the following were present, viz.: The Rev.

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Principal Snodgrass, D. D., The Rev. Dr. Cook, The Rev. Dr. Jenkins, The Rev. George Bell, The Rev. Kenneth Maclennan, Ministers, with the Hon. Alexander Morris, Mr. James Croil, Mr. James Craig, Mr. Robert Bell, and Mr. James S. Hunter, Elders of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland; The Rev. Dr. Taylor, The Rev. Dr. Topp, The Rev. Professor Caven, The Rev. Thomas Macpherson, The Rev. Dr. Macvicar, Ministers, with The Hon. John McMurrich, Mr. David Mackay, and Mr. George Hay, Elders of the Canada Presbyterian Church; The Rev. Dr. Bayne, The Rev. George Christie, The Rev. Robert Sedgewick, The Rev. George Patterson, Ministers, with Mr. Henry B. Webster, and Mr. George A. Blanchard, Elders of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces; and The Rev. Neil Brodie, Minister of the Presbyterian Church of the Maritime Provinces in connexion with the Church of Scotland.

The Committee, before proceeding to business, spent some time in devotional exercises, imploring the Divine guidance and blessing on their meeting.

It was then resolved, that for the more convenient and speedy transaction of business, the sessions of Committee shall be from 9.30, A. M., to 12.30, P. M., from 2.30 to 5.30, P. M., and from 7.30 in the evening till such time as may be determined at that session.

On motion made, and unanimously agreed to, the Committee resolved to take up consideration of the Basis of Union first. The Basis adopted by the Joint Committee of last year was accordingly read, with the deliverances of the several Churches thereon.

The Committee then adjourned till to-morrow morning at half-past 9 o'clock. Closed with prayer.

JOHN COOK, D.D., *Chairman.*
ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., *Secretary.*

At the same place, and on the 27th September, 1871, at 9.30, A.M., the Committee met and was constituted, The Rev. Thomas Macpherson, at the request of the Chairman, offering up prayer.

Sederunt as before, with the addition of The Rev. David Watson,

Minister, and Mr. Neil McDougall, Elder of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland; Mr. John L. Gibb and Mr. Thomas McCrae, Elders of the Canada Presbyterian Church; The Rev. George M. Grant, The Rev. Robert G. Cameron, Ministers, and Mr. J. G. Bremner, Elder of the Presbyterian Church of the Maritime Provinces in connexion with the Church of Scotland; and The Rev. James Bennet, Minister of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The Committee proceeded to consider the Basis of Union. The First Article of the Basis recommended in last year's minutes having been read, final decision as to the precise terms in which it should be expressed was deferred.

The Committee then took up the Second Article, and was engaged in considering the same when the hour of adjournment arrived. The Committee accordingly adjourned. Closed with prayer.

JOHN COOK, D.D., *Chairman.*
ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., *Secretary.*

At same place, and on the same day, at 2½ p.m., the Committee met and was constituted. The Rev. Kenneth Maclennan, at the request of the Chairman, offered up prayer.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The Committee resumed consideration of the Second Article of the Basis, and continued therein till 5 o'clock, when it was resolved to adjourn. The Committee accordingly adjourned.—Closed with prayer.

JOHN COOK, D.D., *Chairman.*
ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., *Secretary.*

At the same place, and on the same day, 7.30 p.m., the Committee met and was constituted, the Rev. Robert G. Cameron, at the request of the Chairman, offering up prayer.

Sederunt as before.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The Committee having taken up further consideration of the Basis of Union, agreed to the following as the Second Article. "That the Westminster Confession of Faith shall form the subordinate Standard of this Church. That the Larger and Shorter Catechisms shall be adopted by the Church, and appointed to be used for the instruction of the people."

It was further resolved, that to the Second Article of the Basis there be added this clause, viz.—"It being distinctly understood that nothing contained in the aforesaid Confession or Catechisms regarding the power and duty of the civil magistrate shall be held to sanction any principles or views inconsistent with full liberty of conscience in matters of religion."

The Committee then adjourned. Closed with prayer.

JOHN COOK, D.D., *Chairman.*

ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., *Secretary.*

At the same place, 28th September, 1871, at 9.30 A. M., the Committee met and was constituted, the Rev. Dr. Bayne, at the request of the Chairman, offering up prayer.

Sederunt as before.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The Committee having resumed consideration of the Basis of Union, resolved, after full deliberation, to adopt the following as the Third Article of the Basis, viz: "That the government and worship of this Church shall be in accordance with the recognized principles and practice of Presbyterian Churches, as laid down generally in 'The form of Presbyterial Church Government,' and in 'The Directory for the public worship of God.'" The Committee then adjourned. Closed with prayer.

JOHN COOK, D.D., *Chairman.*

ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., *Secretary.*

At 2.30 P.M., same day and place, the Committee met and was constituted, the Rev. Robert Sedgewick, at the request of the Chairman, offering up prayer.

Sederunt as before.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The Committee resumed consideration of the Basis, and agreed to the following as the Fourth Article: "That this Church, while cherishing Christian affection towards the whole Church of God, and desiring to hold fraternal intercourse with it in its several branches, as opportunity offers, shall, at the same time, regard itself as being in such ecclesiastical relations to Churches, holding the same doctrine, government, and discipline with itself, as that Ministers and Probationers from these Churches shall be received into this Church, subject to such regulations as shall from time to time be adopted."

The Committee then returned to the consideration of the First Article of the Basis, and resolved to adopt the following as such: "That the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, being the Word of God, are the only infallible rule of faith and manners."

It was also resolved that the title of the United Church shall be, "The Presbyterian Church of British North America." Mr. Brodie dissented from this resolution.

The Committee took up the matter of Collegiate Education, and, having heard read the resolution of Committee last year, and the deliverances thereon of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, and of the General Assembly of the Canada Presbyterian Church, entered into the consideration of the whole subject, and continued therein till the hour of adjournment. The Committee then adjourned.

JOHN COOK, D.D., *Chairman.*
ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., *Secretary.*

At 7.30 P.M., same day and place, the Committee met and was constituted, the Rev. Professor Caven, at the request of the Chairman, offering up prayer.

Sederunt as before.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The Committee having resumed consideration of the matter of

Collegiate Education, continued therein till 10 o'clock. The Committee then adjourned. Closed with prayer.

JOHN COOK, D.D., *Chairman.*

ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., *Secretary.*

At the same place, on the 29th September, 1871, at 9.30 A.M., the Committee met and was constituted, the Rev. Dr. Taylor, at the request of the Chairman, offering up prayer.

Sederunt as before.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

Before proceeding with the regular business of this session, the several Articles of the Basis of Union, as agreed to, were read, and a committee consisting of Principal Snodgrass, Professor Caven, and the Secretary, were appointed to revise the same, and to bring the Basis before the Committee in the form in which it should be presented to the respective Churches.

The Committee then resumed consideration of the subject of Collegiate Education, and adjourned at 12.30, to meet at 3 P.M. Closed with prayer.

JOHN COOK, D.D., *Chairman.*

ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., *Secretary.*

At the same place, and on the same day, at 3 P.M., the Committee met and was constituted, the Rev. George Christie, at the request of the Chairman, offering up prayer.

Sederunt as before. The Rev. Dr. Bayne, Chairman *p. t.*

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The Committee proceeded to consider the question of a Sustentation Fund for the United Church, as brought up by the extract minutes of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, regarding the distribution of the Temporalities' Fund belonging to the said Church.

The subject was under discussion when the hour of adjournment arrived. The Committee accordingly adjourned. Closed with prayer.

JAMES BAYNE, D.D., *Chairman, p.t.*
ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., *Secretary.*

At 7.30 P.M., same place and day, the Committee met and was constituted, the Rev. Thos. McPherson, at the request of the Chairman, offering up prayer. Sederunt as before, the Rev. Dr. Bayne, Chairman, p.t.

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The Committee having taken up consideration of the 6th resolution in last year's minutes, agreed to adopt it as it stands, viz: "That with regard to modes of worship, the practice presently followed by congregations in the matter of worship shall be allowed, and that further action in connexion therewith be left to the legislation of the United Church."

The Committee further agreed to recommend the establishment of an efficient Widows' and Orphans' Fund for the United Church, to which all ministers and congregations will be expected to contribute; and that in the meantime a Committee, consisting of Mr. Croil, Convener, the Hon. John McMurrich and Mr. D. Mackay, be appointed to employ an actuary to value the different Funds now in existence, and submit to this Committee an equitable plan for the establishment and future management of the Fund.

The Committee then returned to the subject of Collegiate Education, and unanimously adopted the following deliverance: "That the negotiating Churches shall enter into union, with the Theological and Literary institutions which they now have; and that application be made to Parliament for such legislation as will bring Queen's University and College, Knox College, the Presbyterian College, Montreal, Morrin College, and the Theological Hall, at Halifax, into relations to the United Church similar to those which they now hold to their respective Churches, and to preserve their corporate existence, government and functions, on terms and conditions like to those under which they now exist."

The Committee then adjourned. Closed with prayer.

JAMES BAYNE, D.D., *Chairman, p. t.*
ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., *Secretary.*

At the same place, 30th September, 1871, at 9.30 A.M., the Committee met and was constituted, the Rev. George Bell, at the request of the Chairman, offering up prayer. Sederunt as before, with the exception of Professor Caven, Rev. David Watson, Mr. McDougall, Hon. Alexander Morris, Mr. McRae, Mr. Hay, and Mr. Gibb. Dr. Bayne, Chairman, *p. t.*

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The Committee having taken up the matter of the proposed distribution of the Temporalities' Fund, already referred to in a previous minute, agreed to the following deliverance: "That the Committee regard with much satisfaction and approval the proposed distribution of the Temporalities' Fund, as one which may largely promote the interests of certain important Schemes of the Church; but are of opinion that the object recommended by the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, as to the payment of a sum of two hundred dollars per annum to every minister on the Synod roll, to whom the benefit of the Temporalities' Fund does not yet extend, may be as efficiently and conveniently carried out by said Synod in another way acceptable to all parties."

The Committee then adjourned. Closed with prayer.

JAMES BAYNE, D.D., *Chairman, p. t.*
ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., *Secretary.*

At same place and on the same day, at 2.30 P. M., the Committee met and was constituted, the Rev. George M. Grant, at the request of the Chairman, offering up prayer. Sederunt as before. Dr. Bayne, Chairman, *p. t.*

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The Committee, after full deliberation, resolved to recommend that such legislation should be sought as shall preserve undisturbed

all the rights of property belonging to individual congregations and corporate bodies entering into the proposed Union.

Other matters regarding the practical work of the Church, and the constitution of the General Assembly of the United Church, occupied the attention of the Committee till the hour of adjournment.

Notice was given of a motion, as the first business on Monday morning, to re-consider the resolution adopted on the matter of Collegiate Education. The Committee then adjourned. Closed with prayer.

JAMES BAYNE, D.D., *Chairman, p. t.*
ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., *Secretary.*

At the same place, 2nd October, 1871, at 9.30 A.M., the Committee met and was constituted, the Rev. Principal Snodgrass, at the request of the Chairman, offering up prayer. Sederunt—the Rev. Drs. Snodgrass, Cook, Jenkins, Bayne, Taylor, McVicar, Topp, the Rev. Messrs. McPherson, Bennet, Christie, Sedgewick, Bell, McLennan, Grant, Cameron, the Hon. John McMurrich, Messrs. Bremner, Croil, Bell, D. Mackay. Dr. Bayne, Chairman, *p. t.*

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

A motion was made, duly seconded, that the Committee reconsider the resolution adopted on a previous day regarding Collegiate Education. It was unanimously resolved to do so. The Committee agreed to spend some time in imploring the Divine guidance on this important matter.

This having been done, and the matter having been taken up for consideration, certain resolutions were submitted. These were under discussion when the hour of adjournment arrived. The Committee then adjourned. Closed with Prayer.

JAMES BAYNE, D.D., *Chairman, p. t.*
ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., *Secretary.*

At 2.30 P.M., same place and day, the Committee met and was constituted, the Rev. Dr. Jenkins, at the request of the chairman, offering up prayer. Sederunt as before, Dr. Bayne, chairman, *p. t.*

The minutes of last meeting were read and approved.

The Committee resumed consideration of the matter of Collegiate Education, and agreed that for the deliverance of the 29th September, on that subject, the following resolutions be adopted:—

1. That inasmuch as the Canada Presbyterian Church has resolved to raise two hundred and fifty thousand dollars for the endowment of its Theological Institutions, it be recommended to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, to provide such further endowment to the Faculty of Arts in Queen's College as to it may appear necessary or desirable.

2. That Tutorial work in relation to the Literary and Scientific studies of students for the ministry be not carried on in connexion with the Theological Institutions of the United Church in Ontario and Quebec; but that provision be made by the United Church for such work in Queen's College, Kingston, and in Morrin College, Quebec.

3. That the Theological department of Queen's College and that of Morrin College, and the Presbyterian College, Montreal, shall be united into one College, situated at Montreal.

4. That the Theological College thus formed at Montreal shall be governed in general accordance with the provisions of the charter of the Presbyterian College, Montreal.

5. That the three Theological Colleges of the United Church, viz.: at Halifax, Montreal and Toronto, shall be affiliated with Queen's College, so as to be represented in the University Senate.

1. For conferring degrees in Divinity.

2. For taking such share in the government of the University as may be proper in relation to the preparatory training of students for the ministry.

6. That the present Principal of Morrin College shall be invited by the General Assembly of the United Church to be the first Principal of the Theological College at Montreal, that another Theological Professor shall be so invited from Queen's College, and that in the event of his declining the invitation, such Professor shall be nominated by the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland.

7. That the legislation necessary to effect the foregoing changes shall be sought, and that application be made to Parliament for such

legislation, in conformity with the said changes, as will bring Queen's University and College, Knox College, The Presbyterian College, Montreal, Morrin College, and the Theological Hall, at Halifax, into relations to the United Church, similar to those which they now hold to their respective churches, and to preserve their corporate existence, government and functions, on terms and conditions like to those under which they now exist.

Principal Snodgrass dissented from these resolutions for reasons, which, it was agreed, he might, if he thought proper, send to the Secretary.

The Committee further agreed to express their confident expectation that the United Church will heartily take up and prosecute the Home and Foreign Missionary and benevolent operations of the several Churches, according to their respective claims, and that with regard to the practical work of the Church, and the prosecution of its Schemes, whilst of course the General Assembly shall have the supervision and control of all the work of the Church, and be the final Court of Appeal, yet the Committee recommend that the United Church shall have due regard to such arrangements, through synods and local committees, as shall tend most effectually to unite in christian love and sympathy the various sections of the Church, and at the same time to draw forth the resources and energies of the people in behalf of the work of Christ in the Dominion and throughout the world.

It was agreed also by the Committee that the Basis of Union for the United Church, to be known as "The Presbyterian Church of British North America," as revised and made up from the previous minutes by the Committee appointed for that purpose, be as follows:

1. That the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, being the word of God, are the only infallible rule of faith and manners.

2. That the Westminster Confession of Faith shall form the subordinate Standard of this Church, that the Larger and Shorter Catechisms shall be adopted by the Church, and appointed to be used for the instruction of the people; it being distinctly understood that nothing contained in the aforesaid Confession or Catechisms regarding the power and duty of the civil magistrate shall be held to sanction any principles or views inconsistent with full liberty of conscience in matters of religion.

3. That the government and worship of this Church shall be in accordance with the recognized principles and practice of Presbyterian Churches, as laid down generally in the "Form of Presbyterial Church Government," and in "The Directory for the public worship of God."

4. That this Church, while cherishing Christian affection towards the whole Church of God, and desiring to hold fraternal intercourse with it in its several branches, as opportunity offers, shall, at the same time, regard itself as being in such ecclesiastical relations to Churches, holding the same doctrine, government and discipline with itself, as that ministers and probationers from these Churches shall be received into this Church, subject to such regulations as shall from time to time be adopted.

The Committee agreed to send a copy of these minutes, including the above Basis, as their report to the Supreme Courts of the several Churches.

It was also resolved that a copy of the resolutions on Collegiate Education be sent to the Boards of the various Institutions referred to in these resolutions.

The Committee then adjourned.

Closed with prayer.

JAMES BAYNE, D.D., Chairman, *p. t.*

ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., Secretary.

11

MINUTES OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES

OF THE

PROVINCES OF BRITISH NORTH AMERICA,

ON THE

SUBJECT OF UNION,

AT ST. JOHN, N.B., APRIL 1873.

At St. John, N. B., and within Calvin Church there, on the 11th day of April, 1873, at 11 o'clock, a.m., the Committees on the subject of Union, appointed by the Supreme Courts of the following Churches, viz: The Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland—the Canada Presbyterian Church—the Presbyterian Church of the Maritime Provinces in connexion with the Church of Scotland—and the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces—met on the call of the respective Conveners of these Committees, as a Joint Committee, to carry out the purpose of their appointment.

Present:—The Rev. Principal Snodgrass, D. D., The Rev. Dr. Jenkins, The Rev. James C. Smith, Ministers, with Mr. James Craig, M.P.P., and Mr. James Croil, Elders of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland; The Rev. Robert Ure, The Rev. Professor Caven, The Rev. Professor MacVicar, L.L.D., The Rev. Thomas McPherson, The Rev. Dr. Topp, Ministers, with the Hon. John McMurrich, and Mr. Thomas McCrae, Elders of the Canada Presbyterian Church; The Rev. Allan Pollok, The Rev. Dr. Brooke, The Rev. Donald McRae,

The Rev. G. J. Caie, Ministers, with Mr. James J. Bremner, Elder of the Presbyterian Church of the Maritime Provinces in connexion with the Church of Scotland; The Rev. Dr. Bayne, The Rev. G. Christie, The Rev. James Bennet, The Rev. G. Patterson, The Rev. Professor MacKnight, Ministers, with Mr. M.H. Gondge, Mr. H. B. Webster, Mr. John S. McLean, and Mr. G. A. Blanchard, Elders of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces.

It was moved by Dr. Jenkins, and seconded by Dr. Topp, and unanimously agreed to, that the Rev. Dr. Bayne be appointed Chairman. Dr. Bayne accordingly took the chair, and opened the meeting with prayer.

It was then moved by Principal Snodgrass, and unanimously agreed to, that Dr. Topp be appointed to act as Secretary.

The Committee unanimously approved of the conduct of the Conveners in calling this meeting.

The Conveners severally reported the deliverances on the subject of Union of the Supreme Courts of their respective Churches, at their last meeting, in June, 1872.

There were also read the minutes of a Conference held at Montreal on the 26th day of December, 1872, between the Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, and the Committee of the Canada Presbyterian Church, for the purpose of considering matters arising out of the deliverances of the Supreme Courts of these Churches, and specially affecting them.

It was resolved to engross these in the minutes of this Committee; and they are accordingly engrossed, viz.:

"At Montreal, and within St. Paul's Church there, the Committees on Union of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, and of the Canada Presbyterian Church, met on the 26th December, 1872, at 11 o'clock, a.m. *Present:* The Rev. Principal Snodgrass, D.D,, The Rev. Dr. Jenkins, The Rev. Dr. Bell, Ministers, with Messrs. James Craig, James Croil, Archibald McMurchy, and Robert Bell, Elders of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland; The Rev. Dr. Taylor, The Rev. Professor MacVicar. L.L.D., the Rev. Professor Caven, The Rev. Robert Ure, The Rev. Thomas McPherson, The Rev. Dr. Topp, Ministers, with the Hon. John McMurrich, and Mr. Thomas McCrae, Elders of the Canada Presbyterian Church.

The Conveners, Principal Snodgrass and Dr. Topp, stated the purpose for which they had deemed it expedient to call their

respective Committees together at this time, viz., to consult with reference to certain deliverances of their respective Supreme Courts, which appear to indicate diversity of sentiment on some subjects. The meeting approved of the conduct of the Conveners in thus calling them together, and resolved to hold a Conference, as proposed.

It was then moved by Professor Caven and seconded by Dr. Topp, and unanimously agreed to, that the Rev. Dr. Jenkins be appointed Chairman. Dr. Jenkins accordingly took the chair. At his request, the Conference was constituted with prayer by Dr. Taylor and Professor Caven.

Dr. Topp was unanimously appointed to act as Secretary.

The Conveners of the two Committees read the deliverances of the Supreme Courts of their respective Churches on the various matters brought under their notice in connexion with the proposed Union. It was found from these, that the subjects to be considered by this Conference were the following: 1. The deliverance of the Canada Presbyterian Church on the Headship of Christ over His Church. 2. The deliverances of both Churches on State grants to Denominational Colleges. 3. The deliverances of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connexion with the Church of Scotland, on the mode of appointment of Theological Professors.

It was resolved to take up the deliverance on the Headship first. The same was read, and explanations were given as to its meaning and object by the Convener, and by other members of the Committee of the Canada Presbyterian Church.

Authoritative documents of the respective Churches on the subject were read, viz: On the part of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland: The Act of Independence; The questions put to Ministers at ordination; The Formula signed by the Ministers of that Church, and The form used in closing the meeting of the Supreme Court. On the part of the Canada Presbyterian Church there were read the articles of the Basis of Union between the two bodies now composing that Church; The questions put to Ministers at ordination, and the Formula.

After interchange of sentiment, and frank conversation on these documents, the members of the Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, directed copies of the documents read by them to be transmitted to the Convener of the Committee of the Canada Presbyterian Church, that said Committee may deal with the matter in their report in such a way as to them may seem proper.

The subject of State grants to Denominational Colleges, was next taken up. The deliverances of the Supreme Courts of the the two Churches thereon, were read.

During the discussion of this subject by the Conference, the hour of adjournment arrived.

Adjourned, and closed with prayer.

JOHN JENKINS, D.D., *Chairman.*
ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., *Secretary.*

Same day and place, 3¼ p.m., the Conference met, and was constituted with prayer by the Chairman.

Sederunt as before, with the addition of Mr. David Mackay, Elder of the Canada Presbyterian Church. Dr. Jenkins, Chairman; Dr. Topp, Secretary.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and sustained.

The consideration of the matter of State grants to Denominational Colleges, was resumed. The following deliverance, proposed by Professor Caven, and seconded by Dr. MacVicar, was unanimously adopted, viz: This Conference claims for the respective Churches represented by it the fullest forbearance as to any difference of opinion which may exist respecting the question of State grants to Educational Establishments of a Denominational character, and does not see, in such diversity of sentiment upon a subject on which uniformity of opinion is not enforced within any of the negotiating bodies, anything which need prove a barrier to Union, or disturb the peace of a united Church.

The Rev. Gavin Lang now entered, and took his seat in the Conference.

The subject of the appointment of Professors in the Theological Colleges was then taken up. The deliverance of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, respecting it, was read. After lengthened conversation on the subject, it was the unanimous opinion of the Conference that the whole matter should be referred to the deliberations of the Joint Committee at its next meeting.

The Conference having reason to express its thankfulness at the satisfactory progress which has been made with reference to the object for which this meeting has been held, recommends the Conveners of the Committees of the Churches concerned, to make arrangements for a joint meeting of these committees at St. John, N. B., on Friday, the 11th April, 1873, at 11 o'clock, a.m.

The Rev. Robert Ure, at the request of the Chairman, engaged in prayer.

The minutes of this and the previous meeting were read and approved.

Adjourned,and closed with prayer.

JOHN JENKINS, D.D., *Chairman.*
ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., *Secretary.*"

It was agreed that the Sessions of this Committee should be from 9½ o'clock a.m., till 1 o'clock; from 3 p.m., till 6 p.m.; and from 7.30 p.m. till such time as adjournment is agreed to.

Adjourned, and closed with prayer.

JAMES BAYNE, D.D., *Chairman.*
ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., *Secretary.*

At St. John, same day and place, 3 p.m. The Committee met and, at the request of the Chairman, Mr. McPherson constituted the meeting with prayer.

Sederunt as before. Dr. Bayne, Chairman; Dr. Topp, Secretary.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

In proceeding to the proper business ot this Committee, it was resolved to take up the consideration of the Basis of Union first, and that the articles of the Basis of Union, as adopted by the Joint Committee, at its meeting in 1871, be now read. This having been done,

It was moved by Dr. Jenkins, seconded by Mr. Ure, and unanimously agreed to, that the four articles, as thus read, do form the Basis of Union for the United Church, viz:—

1. That the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, being the Word of God, are the only infallible rule of faith and manners.

2. That the Westminster Confession of Faith shall form the subordinate standard of this Church; that the Larger and Shorter Catechisms shall be adopted by the Church, and appointed to be used for the instruction of the people—it being distinctly understood that nothing contained in the aforesaid Confession or Catechisms, regarding the power and duty of the Civil Magistrate, shall be held to sanction any principles or views inconsistent with full liberty of conscience in matters of religion.

3. That the government and worship of this Church shall be in accordance with the recognized principles and practice of Presbyterian Churches, as laid down generally in the "Form of Presbyterial Church Government," and in "The Directory for the Public Worship of God."

4. That this Church, while cherishing Christian affection towards the whole Church of God, and desiring to hold fraternal intercourse with it in its several branches, as opportunity offers, shall, at the same time, regard itself as being in such Ecclesiastical relations to Churches holding the same doctrine, government and discipline with itself, as that Ministers and Probationers from these Churches shall be received into this Church, subject to such regulations as shall, from time to time, be adopted.

The Committee then took up for consideration that part of the Minutes of the Conference held in Montreal, which relates to the subject of the Headship of Christ, as contained in the instructions of the General Assembly of the Canada Presbyterian Church to its Committee.

After full deliberation, the Committee deferred, in the meantime, a formal deliverance on the subject.

The Secretary then read the resolution of the Conference held at Montreal, on the subject of State grants to Denominational Colleges. The Committee unanimously expressed its approval of said resolution, and adopted it as its own, viz.: The Committee claims for the respective Churches represented by it the fullest forbearance as to any difference of opinion which may exist respecting the question of State grants to Educational Establishments of a Denominational character, and does not see, in such diversity of sentiment upon a subject on which uniformity of opinion is not enforced within any of the negotiating bodies, anything which need prove a barrier to Union, or disturb the peace of a United Church.

Principal Snodgrass then, as Convener of the Committee of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, read the deliverance of the Supreme Court of that Church on the subject of the mode of election of Theological Professors.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, the meeting adjourned, and closed with prayer.

JAMES BAYNE, D.D., *Chairman.*
ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., *Secretary.*

At St. John, same day and place, 7.30 p.m. The Committee met, and was constituted with prayer by the Rev. G. Christie, at the request of the Chairman.

Sederunt as before. Dr. Bayne, Chairman; Dr. Topp, Secretary.

The minutes of the former meeting were read and sustained.

The Committee took up consideration of the subject of the appointment of Theological Professors, as brought before them in the deliverance of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland. After lengthened deliberation, and a free expression of opinion, it was moved by Principal Snodgrass, seconded by Professor Caven, and unanimously agreed to, That it is inexpedient for this Committee to pass at present any resolution on the subject.

Adjourned, and closed with prayer.

JAMES BAYNE, D.D., *Chairman.*
ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., *Secretary.*

At St. John, and within Calvin Church there, on the 12th day of April, 1873, 9.30 a.m., the Committee met, and was constituted with prayer by the Rev. Professor Caven, at the request of the Chairman.

Sederunt as before, with the addition of the Rev. Kenneth McLennan, of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland. Dr. Bayne, Chairman; Dr. Topp, Secretary.

The minutes of the former meeting were read and sustained.

The Committee spent this Session in a frank conversation regarding the maintenance of the Theological Institutions of the Church, but came to no formal resolution on the subject.

Adjourned, and closed with prayer.

JAMES BAYNE, D.D., *Chairman.*
ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., *Secretary.*

At St. John, same day and place, 3 p.m., the Committee met, and was constituted with prayer by the Rev. Dr. Jenkins, at the request of the Chairman.

Sederunt as before, with the exception of the Rev. Dr. Brooke, who was unable to remain longer. The Rev. Robert Cameron took his seat as alternate for Dr. Brooke. Dr. Bayne, Chairman; Dr. Topp, Secretary.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and sustained.

The Committee now resumed consideration of that part of the Minutes of the Conference at Montreal which referred to the Headship of Christ, and which had engaged attention at a former Session. After further deliberation, it was moved by Professor Caven, seconded by Dr. Topp, and carried unanimously, That the Committee, having heard the Minutes of Conference regarding this subject, which have been read, does now express its satisfaction with the unanimity of sentiment which is exhibited in the documents therein referred to.

Adjourned, and closed with prayer.

JAMES BAYNE, D.D., *Chairman.*
ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., *Secretary.*

At St. John, same day and place, 7.30 p.m., the Committee met, and was constituted with prayer by the Hon. John McMurrich, at the request of the Chairman.

Sederunt as before. Dr. Bayne, Chairman; Dr. Topp, Secretary.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and sustained.

The Committee took up the consideration of the subject of Public Worship, when it was unanimously resolved, That with regard to modes of worship, the practice presently followed by congregations, in the matter of worship, shall be allowed, and that further action in connexion therewith be left to the legislation of the United Church.

The subject of Collegiate Education was next brought under the notice of the Committee, when, after discussion, Principal Snodgrass moved, and the Hon. John McMurrich seconded the motion, That the negotiating Churches shall enter into union with the Theological and Literary Institutions which they now have; and that application be made to Parliament for such legislation as will bring Queen's University and College, Knox College, The Presbyterian College, Montreal, Morrin College, and the Theological Hall at Halifax, into relations to the United Church similar to those which they now hold to their respective Churches, and to preserve their corporate existence, government and functions, on terms and conditions like to those under which they now exist; but the United Church shall not be required to elect Trustees for an Arts' Department in any of the Colleges above named. This motion was unanimously carried.

The Committee then adjourned, to meet on Monday, the 14th. at 10.30 a.m.

Closed with prayer.

JAMES BAYNE, D.D., *Chairman.*
ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., *Secretary.*

At St. John, and within Calvin Church there, on the 14th day of April, 1873, at 10.30 a.m., the Committee met, and was constituted with prayer by the Rev. Dr. MacVicar, at the request of the Chairman.

Sederunt as before. Dr. Bayne, Chairman; Dr. Topp, Secretary.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and sustained.

Principal Snodgrass moved, seconded by the Hon. John McMurrich, and the motion was unanimously agreed to, That the Committee recommend that steps be taken at the first meeting of the General Assembly of the United Church, for the equitable establishment and administration of an efficient Fund for the benefit of the widows and orphans of ministers.

It was also unanimously resolved, on the motion of Principal Snodgrass, That such legislation shall be sought as shall preserve undisturbed all rights of property now belonging to congregations and corporate bodies, and, at the same time, not interfere with freedom of action on the part of congregations in the same locality desirous of uniting, or on the part of corporate bodies which may find it to be expedient to discontinue, wholly or partially, their separate existence.

Principal Snodgrass reported action on the part of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland, as follows: "That the Temporalities Fund shall remain, as at present, in the hands of a Board, the membership of which shall be continued, after the consummation of the Union, by the remanent members having power to fill vacancies caused by death, resignation, or otherwise; and the administration of the Fund shall continue on the same principles and for the same purposes as at present, until all vested rights shall have lapsed; and these rights shall be held to be the following:—(1.) The annual receipt by ministers now receiving four hundred and fifty dollars ($450), four hundred dollars ($400), or two hundred dollars ($200), of the same amount during their lifetime, and good standing in the Church. (2.) The annual receipt of two thousand dollars ($2000) by the Treasurer of Queen's College, and (3) the annual receipt

of two hundred dollars ($200) by all the ministers who shall be on the Synod Roll at the time of the Union, and by all recognized Probationers and Licentiates during their lifetime, and good standing in the Church; That as soon as the Fund, or any part of it, shall no longer be required for these purposes, it shall be appropriated (1) to the formation of a Fund for the benefit of Aged and Infirm Ministers of the United Church, retired from the active duties of the ministry with the sanction of the said Church, in the proportion of six-ninths; (2) for the maintenance and extension of the Theological Faculty of Queen's College, in the proportion of two-ninths; (3) to the Ministers' Widows and Orphans' Fund of the said United Church, in the proportion of one-ninth—these calculations to be based on a capital fund of four hundred and fifty thousand dollars ($450,000), and the residue, over and above this amount, up to forty thousand dollars ($40,000), to be devoted to the maintenance of the Theological Faculty of Morrin College; And whereas, the Committee on Union desire instructions as to the mode of making provision for the payment of two hundred dollars ($200) per annum to all Ministers on the Roll at the time of union until such time as they become beneficiaries of the Temporalities' Fund, the Synod refer the matter to the wisdom of the Committee to arrange such method of provision as they may deem best, drawing, if necessary (but only as an extreme measure, when no other method of meeting the difficulty can be devised), upon the capital of the Fund—the same to be repaid to capital before any distribution of the principal Fund takes place.

Professor Caven moved, seconded by the Hon. John McMurrich, and the motion was unanimously adopted, That this Committee record its satisfaction with the proposed arrangement of the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connexion with the Church of Scotland.

Adjourned, and closed with prayer.

JAMES BAYNE, D.D., *Chairman.*
ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., *Secretary.*

At St. John, same day and place, 3 p.m., the Committee met, and was constituted with prayer by Mr. Webster, at the request of the Chairman. Sederunt as before, Dr. Bayne, Chairman; Dr. Topp, Secretary.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and sustained.

It was then moved by Prof. Caven, seconded by Professor MacKnight, and unanimously agreed to, That the Committee does

now express its confident expectation that the United Church will heartily take up and prosecute the Home and Foreign Missionary and Benevolent operations of the several churches, according to their respective claims; and that with regard to the practical work of the Church, and the promotion of its schemes, whilst the General Assembly shall have the supervision and control of all the work of the Church; yet the Committee recommend that the United Church shall have due regard to such arrangements, through Synods and Local Committees, as shall tend most effectually to unite in Christian love and sympathy the various sections of the Church, and at the same time to draw forth the resources and energies of the people in behalf of the work of Christ in the Dominion, and throughout the world.

The Committee further agreed that the name of the United Church should be "The Presbyterian Church of British North America."

In terminating their proceedings, the Committee unanimously adopted the following resolution:

"This meeting, having carefully reviewed the deliberations and proceedings of the present and two former joint meetings of Committees, records its gratification at the agreement which has been attained on the various subjects that have been considered, and believing that all matters claiming attention have been discussed, resolves, That the Committees, in reporting to the next ensuing annual meetings of the Supreme Courts of their respective Churches, shall submit an extract of this minute, along with the proposed Basis of Union, and the deliverances that have been passed, with a strong recommendation in favour of the adoption of the same without change, so that precisely the same document may be transmitted by all the Courts; and that there may be no further delay in ascertaining the views of all parties concerned on the subject of Union."

It was then moved by Dr. Jenkins, seconded by the Hon. John McMurrich, and cordially agreed to, That the Joint Committee, representing the several Presbyterian Churches of British North America, does express its grateful sense of the great kindness and hospitality extended to its members by Christian friends in the city; also, that the thanks of the Committee be given to the minister and managers of Calvin Church for the use of the same, and for the comfortable accommodation thus provided for their meetings.

Dr. Jenkins, Professor Caven and the Secretary were appointed a Committee to revise the minutes, previously to their being printed for the use of the Supreme Courts.

The Rev. Robert Ure, having been requested by the Chairman, engaged in prayer, and then the meeting was closed with the Benediction by the Chairman.

JAMES BAYNE, D.D. *Chairman.*
ALEXANDER TOPP, D.D., *Secretary.*

PRESBYTERIAN PRINTING HOUSE, 102 BAY STREET, TORONTO.

TABULAR STATEMENT

Of Returns to the Synod's Remit on Union from Presbyteries, Kirk-Sessions and Congregations.

		I.	II.	III.	REMARKS.
QUEBEC PRESBYTERY		Yea.	Yea.	Yea [1] (with reservation.)	
Quebec	Session	do	do	do [1]	
	Congregation	do	do	do [1]	
Point Levi	S.	do	do	Yea	
	C.	do	do	do	
Three Rivers	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Sherbrooke	S	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Melbourne	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Valcartier	S.	No Return.			
	C.	do			

[1] These disapprove of the proposed distribution of the Temporalities' Fund, because no fixed portion of the capital is allotted to Morrin College, and suggest the following distribution, viz:—Five-ninths to the Fund for Aged and Infirm Ministers, one-ninth to the Widows' and Orphans' Fund, and three-ninths to be divided equally between the Theological Faculties of Queen's University and Morrin College.

		I.	II.	III.	REMARKS.
MONTREAL PRESBYTERY		Yea.	Yea. [1]	Yea.	II., 1, 3, 5, 6, 7, unanimously. 1 dissentient from II., 2. 2 dissentients from III.
Georgetown	S.	No Return.			
	C.	do			
Lachine	S.	Nay.	Nay.	Nay.	
	C.	do	do	do	
Beechridge	S.	No Return.			
	C.	do			
Hemmingford	S.	Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	
	C.	do	do	do	
Russeltown	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Montreal, St. Paul's	S.	do	do	do	Unanimously.
	C.	do	do	do	do
Chatham & Grenville	S.	do	do	do [2]	
Chatham	C.	do	do	do [2]	
Grenville	C.	do	do	do [2]	
Dundee	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Montreal, St. Gabriel's	S.	do	do	do	Unanimously.
	C.	do	do	do	do
Elgin & Athelstane	S.	do	Yea, except 3. [3]	do	Accompanied by a formal protest from the Rev. Hugh Niven.
	C.	do	do do [3]	do	
Montreal, St. Matthew's	S.	do	Yea.	do	
	C.	do	do	do [4]	
Montreal, St. Andrew's	S.	Nay.	Nay.	Nay.	
	C.	No Return.			

		I.	II.	III.	REMARKS.
MONTREAL—*Continued.*					
Montreal, St. Mark's	S.	Yea.	Yea. [1]	Yea.	
	C.	do	do	do	
Ormstown	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Huntingdon	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Beauharnois	S.	do	do	do	
Beauharnois	C.	do	do	do	
Chateauguay Basin	C.	do	do	do	
Laprairie	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
St. Louis de Gonzague	S.	No Return.			
	C.	Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	
Montreal, St. John's	S.	No Return.			
	C.	do.			

[1] II. 4, assented to with the understanding that such legislation be sought prior to the consummation of Union.

[2] The following amendment is suggested to III. that Probationers and Licentiates, not doing the work of the Church, be not beneficiaries upon the Temporalities' Fund.

[3] These disapprove of II. 3, last clause, because the Church ought to have the power to elect Trustees.

[4] If the Synod should so distribute the Fund as to secure greater unanimity among its members, this congregation would acquiesce in such action.

		I.	II.	III.	REMARKS.
GLENGARY PRESBYTERY		Nay.	Nay.	Nay.	Vote stood 6 to 3.
Lancaster	S.	do [1]	do	do	
	C.	do [1]	do	do	
Williamstown	S.	Yea.	Yea.	Nay. [2]	Vote stood 5 to 3.
	C.	do	do	do [2]	" " 36 to 23.
Williamsburgh	S.	No Return.			
	C.	do			
Finch	S.	Yea.	Yea.	Nay. [3]	I. unanimously.
	C.	do	do	do [3]	On I. and II. vote stood 35 to 21.
Martintown	S.	do [4]	do	Yea.	Unanimously.
	C.	do	do	do	Vote stood 28 to 4.
Osnabruck	S.	do	do	do	The Moderator dissents throughout.
	C.	do	do	do	1 dissentient throughout.
Cornwall	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	1 dissentient from II. 1.
Matilda	S	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Cote St. George	S.	do	do	do	I. unanimously.
	C.	do	do	do	
Indian Lands	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	1 dissentient from I.
Lochiel	S.	No Return.			
	C.	do			
Dalhousie Mills	S.	do			
	C.	do			

[1] "Nay" throughout on the principle of being opposed to Union.
[2] "Because said disposal of the Temporalities' Fund does not appear to be in accordance with the original intent of the donors."

[2] "Because said disposal of the Temporalities' Fund does not appear to be in accordance with the original intent of the

[3] 1st. Because a Board so constituted is not responsible to the United Church or any other power.
2nd. Because of the unfair distribution of the Fund and the invidious distinction made between Queen's University and Morrin College.
3rd. "Because this congregation was presided over by one of the original Founders of the Fund from the commencement until his death; and this meeting view his action in yielding his claim to a fixed portion of the Fund in the light of a legacy, not only to his successors in this congregation but also to the congregation itself for all time to come."
The Session suggest two other modes of distributing the Fund, to either of which, and to none other, they will consent. (1) An equal division among all the congregations of the Church existing at the time of Commutation, or (2) a sum equal to ten year's purchase to every Minister on the Synod Roll, ranking them as at present, $4500 to Commutants, $4000 to Privileged and $2000 to Non-Privileged Ministers; and the balance of the Fund equally to the support of Aged and Infirm Ministers and the support of Foreign Missions.

[4] "The minority object to Union on any terms."

		I.	II.	III.	REMARKS.
PERTH PRESBYTERY		Yea. [1]	Yea.	Yea	
Pakenham	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Perth	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Smith's Falls	S.	do			Unanimously.
	C.	do	do	do	do
Lanark	S.	Nay.	Nay.	Nay	
	C.	do	do	do	
Beckwith	S.	Yea.	Yea	Yea.	
	C.	do	do	do	
Brockville	S.	do	do	Nay. [3]	
	C.	do	do	do [4]	

	I.	II.	III.	REMARKS.
PERTH—*Continued.*				
Macnab & Horton.....S.	Nay.	Nay.	Nay.	Vote stood 4 to 3.
Macnab.....C.	Yea.	Yea.	Yea [3]	
Horton.....C.	do	do	do [4]	
Middleville & Dalhousie .....S.	do	do	do	
Middleville.....C.	do	do	do	
Dalhousie .....C.	do	do	do	
Ramsay..... S.	do	do	do	
Ramsay..... C.	do	do	do	
Kitley ..... S	No Return.			
Kitley ..... C.	do			
Lombardy & Oliver's Ferry..... S.	do			
Lombardy & Oliver's Ferry..... C.	do			

[1] "Mr. Wilson dissents from I. because no understanding has been come to with regard to the matters which separated the Church in 1844, and without such understanding the proposed Union cannot be hearty and harmonious. Messrs. Wilson, Campbell, Cochrane and Bennett dissent from III. because it would be preferable to have the members of the Temporalities' Board elected by the remanent beneficiaries of the Fund, and to report annually to them: provided that, when they cease to exist, the Superior Court of the United Church shall make the elections and receive the reports. Mr. Wilson further dissented "because the proposed distribution of the Temporalities' Fund is in opposition to the original intention of said Fund."

[2] "Because it would be more in accordance with the original intention and purpose of this Fund to apply it as it is now applied or to keep it as the nucleus of a Mission Fund."

[3] The vote on I. and II. stood 23 communicants and 2 adherents to 19 communicants. The vote on III. stood 22 communicants and 2 adherents to 20 communicants.

[4] The vote on I. stood 44 communicants to 9. Adherents all "yea."
" " II. " 39 " " 4. " " "
III. passed unanimously.

III. passed unanimously.

		I.	II.	III.	REMARKS.
OTTAWA PRESBYTERY		No Return.			
Oxford	S.	Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	
	C.	do	do	do	
Plantaganet	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Spencerville	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Ottawa	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do [1]	do	do	
Chelsea	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Arnprior	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Coulonge	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	Unanimously.
Westmeath	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
L'Orignal & Hawkesbury	S.	do	do	do	
L'Orignal	C.	do	do	do	
Hawkesbury	C.	do	do	do	
Buckingham & Cumberland	S.	do	do	do	Unanimously.
Cumberland	C.	do	do	do	
Litchfield	S.	No Return.			
	C.	Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	
Monntain & S. Gower	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Huntley	S.	do	do	do	Unanimously.
	C.	do	do	do	

		I.	II.	III.	REMARKS.
OTTAWA—*Continued.*					
Richmond	S	Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	
	C.	do	do	do	
Ross	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	

[1] Accompanied by a formal Protest tabled by Messrs. Douglas Brymner and W. A. Ross.

		I.	II.	III.	REMARKS.
KINGSTON PRESBYTERY		Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	Unanimously.
Seymour	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	Unanimously.
Stirling	S.	No Return.			
	C.	do			
Roslin & Thurlow	S.	Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	
Roslin	C.	do	do	do	
Thurlow	C.	do	do	do	
Pittsburgh	S.	do	do	do [1]	Unanimously.
	C.	do	do	do	do
Belleville	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Kingston	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Wolfe Island	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	Unanimously.

[1] "Suggest that it would be better not to repay the capital of the Fund before the proposed distribution takes place."

[1] "Suggest that it would be better not to repay the capital of the Fund before the proposed distribution takes place."

TORONTO PRESBYTERY		I.	II.	III.	REMARKS.
Newmarket	S.	Yea. [1]	Yea.	Yea.	
	C.	No Return.			
Scarboro'	S.	Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	I. unanimously.
	C.	do	do	do	
Orangeville	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
King	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	Nay.	Nay.	Nay	
Pickering — St. Andrew's	S.	do	do	do	Unanimously.
	C.	Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	Vote stood 34 to 6.
Pickering — St. John's	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Scott & Uxbridge	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Vaughan	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	Nay.	Nay.	Nay.	
Nottawasaga	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	Vote on I. stood 31 to 16.
Toronto	S.	Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	" " II. & III. unanimous.
	C.	Nay. [2]	Yea, except 3 & 7.	Nay.	
Darlington	S.	Yea [3]	Yea.	Yea	
	C.	Yea, with proviso [4]	do	do	
Erin	S.	do do [4]	do	do	
	C.	Yea.	do	do	
E. Nottawasaga	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
		do	do	do	

		I.	II.	III.	REMARKS.
TORONTO—*Continued.*					
Georgina	S.	Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	
	C.	do	do	do	
Markham	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	Unanimously.
Stouffville	S.	do	do		I. unanimously.
	C.	do	do	do	do
Tossorontio & Mulmur	S.	do	do	do	
Tossorontio	C.	do	do	do	
Mulmur	C.	do	do	do	
Fergus	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Whitby	S.	do	Yea, except 3. [5]	do [6]	
	C.	do	Yea.	do	
Osprey	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Dunedin	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
W. Gwillimbury and Innisfil	S.	do	do	do	I. unanimously.
Scotch Settlement	C.	do	do	do	
Innisfil	C.	do	do	do	
Arthur	S.	No Return.			
	C.	Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	
Caledon & Mono	S.	No Return.			
	C.	do			

[1] The vote on I. stood 8 to 1; 4 not voting, 1 voted "nay" to II. 7. The vote on III. stood 7 to 1. Messrs. Carmichael (King) Aitken; T. A. Maclean, Archibald Cameron, John Mc[illegible]hy tabled a formal Protest against the proposed Union, assigning reasons of Dissent.

Aitken; T. A. Maclean, Archibald Cameron, John Mc[illegible]
reasons of Dissent.

[2] "Because, in present circumstances, it is deemed unadvisable to complete the proposed Union."

[3] The vote on I. stood 75 communicants and 11 adherents to 25 communicants and 1 adherent.
" " II. " 26 " to 20 "
" " III. " 29 " to 20 "

[4] "'Yea' on condition that the proposed Union does not annul their existence as a separate and distinct congregation in the United Body; but continues and confirms to them all the rights and privileges of a congregation in the new denomination, which they as such possess and enjoy in connection with the Church of Scotland."
For the word 'manners' in the 1st article of the Basis, "as being too flimsy, the word 'life,' as in the Confession of Faith, and as now becoming the basis of a Christian Church," is proposed to be substituted

[5] "The Session" vote 'nay' to II. 3, on two grounds, 1st, that five Colleges are altogether too many for the educational requirements of the United Church; 2nd, the expense of sufficiently maintaining these five Colleges would be too heavy a burden on the United Church. Vote 'yea' to II. 5, on the understanding that all debts on account of Home or Foreign Missionary operations, incurred by either of the negotiating Churches, will be liquidated before Union is consummated, so that the United Church may not be burdened with the same."

[6] One Elder dissents from III., "because (1) the proportion of said Fund appropriated to the Widows' and Orphans' Fund is altogether too small, and (2) before the final disposition of this Fund shall take place and the appropriations to the various objects specified made, the United Church shall have raised an equal proportionate sum."

		I.	II.	III.	REMARKS.
VICTORIA PRESBYTERY		Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	
Thorah	S.	do	Nay.	Nay.	
	C.	do	do [1]	do	Unanimously.
Brock	S.	do	Yea.	Yea.	
	C.	do	do	do	
Clarke	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do [2]	do	do	
Lindsay	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	

		I.	II.	III.	REMARKS.
VICTORIA—*Continued.*					
Peterboro'	S.	Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	
	C.	do	do	do	
Port Hope	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Dummer	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Eldon	S.	No Return.			
	C.	do			
Balsover	S.	do			
	C.	Nay.	Nay.	Nay.	Unanimously.

[1] They "refuse and reject such contemplated Union upon the Basis proposed and submitted to them."
[2] "The attendance was small. Had the question been 'Union or no Union' they would not have been unanimous in favour of Union."

		I.	II.	III.	REMARKS.
HAMILTON PRESBYTERY		Yea. [1]	Yea.	Yea.	
Hamilton, St. Andrew's	S.	See below. [2]			
	C.	No Return.			
Simcoe	S.	do			
	C.	Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	Unanimously.
Dundas	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Niagara	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	

	C.	do	do	do	

		I.	II.	III.	REMARKS.
HAMILTON—*Continued.*					
Guelph	S.	Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	
	C.	do	do	do	
Hornby	S.	No Return.			
	C.	do			
Galt	S.	Nay.[3]	Nay.	Nay.	Vote stood 4 to 2.
	C.	do	do	do	" " 87 to 36.
Woolwich	S.	No Return.			
	C.	Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	Unanimously.
Milton	S.	Nay.[4]	Nay.	Nay.	
	C.	No Return.			
Richwood & Showers' Corners	S.	Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	
	C.	do	do	do	
Hamilton, St. Paul's	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Clifton	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
Nelson & Waterdown	S.	No Return.			
	C.	do			
Lyndoch, *Mission Station*		Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	Unanimously.

[1] The vote on I. and II. stood 7 to 2. On III. 8 to 3. Mr. Burnet dissented and entered reasons of dissent in substance as follows: (1) The Synod appears to have exceeded its legislative and executive power in sending down said Remit without the subject matter thereof having been submitted to the Superior Court by way of overture; (2) the object contemplated by said Remit is illegal, and (3) it is *ultra vires* of the Synod to resolve regarding the disposal of the Temporalities' Fund, inasmuch as the Fund was given in trust under certain conditions specified in Minutes of Synod, Jan. 11, 1855; a breach of which stipulation would endanger the continuance of the Fund.

[2] The Session declined to enter on consideration of the Basis, &c., because (1) the Remit is illegal, and (2) Union at present is impracticable on account of the large minorities in both Churches opposing Union.

[3] "'Nay,' because Union is at present inexpedient and undesirable."

[4] "Because they are opposed to the proposed Union."

		I.	II.	III.	REMARKS.
LONDON PRESBYTERY		Yea. [1]	Yea.	Yea.	
Westminster	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do [2]	
Chatham	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do [3]	do	do	
Bayfield and Varna	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
N. Dorchester	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
London	S.	Nay.	Nay.	Nay.	
	C.	do	do	do	
Goderich	S	Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	
	C.	do	do	do	
Smith's Hill	C.	do	do	do	
Parkhill	S.	do	do	do	Unanimously.
	C.	do	do	do	do
East Williams	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	1 dissentient from III.
Stratford	S.	do	do	do	Unanimously.
	C.	do	do	do	do
Lucknow	S.	No Return.			
	C.	Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	
Kippen	S.	do	do	do	
	C.	do	do	do	
East Oxford	S.	No Return.			
	C.	Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	
Glencoe & Dunwich	S.	No Return.			
	C.	do			

		I.	II.	III.	REMARKS.
Glencoe & Dunwich	S.	No Return.			
	C.	do			

		I.	II.	III.	REMARKS.
LONDON—*Continued.*					
Wawanosh	S.	No Return.			
	C.	do			
Southwold	S.	do			
	C.	do			

[1] The vote on I. and II. 4, 5, 6, 7, was unanimous; 'yea' on II. 2, 3, was carried by a majority; 'yea' on III. by the Moderator's vote.
[2] "Suggest that the Temporalities' Fund be made the basis of a Sustentation Fund."
[3] One dissentient from I. 4 and II. 1, 6. The vote on II. 4 was 9 to 3—on II. 5 was 8 to 1—on III. was 8 to 2.

		I.	II.	III.	REMARKS.
SAUGEEN PRESBYTERY		Yea [1]	Yea.	Yea.	
Owen Sound	S.	No Return.			
	C.				
Priceville	S.	Yea.	Yea	Yea.	Unanimously.
	C.	do	do	do	do
Leith & Johnson	S.	No Return.			
	C.	do			
Kincardine	S.	Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	Unanimously.
	C.	do	do	do	do
Paisley	S.	do	do	do	Vote stood 3 to 1.
	C.	Nay.	Nay.	Nay.	" " 27 to 23.
Mount Forest	S.	Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	Unanimously.
	C.	do	do	do	do
Walkerton	S.	No Return.			
	C.	do			
Saugeen		do			
		do			

[1] The vote stood 4 to 2. Ti[illegible]ority [illegible]et to Union, so long as the Protest against the Church of Scotland, tabled in 1844, is not withdrawn.

		I.	II.	III.	REMARKS.
Addenda.—OTTAWA PRESBYTERY		Yea.	Yea.	Yea.	
Montreal, St. Andrew's	C.	do	do	do	94 communicants & 16 adherents to
Williamsburgh	S.	Nay.	Nay.	Nay.	86 " " 9 "
	C.	do	do	do	

SUMMARY OF RETURNS.

	PRESBYTERIES.	KIRK-SESSIONS.	CONGREGATIONS.
Yea, *simpliciter*	9	88	107
Yea, with modifications or reservations	1	4	6
Yea to I and II. Nay to III		3	3
Nay, *simpliciter*	1	14	11
Nay, with modifications		1	
Total Reporting	11	110	127

J. H. MACKERRAS, *Synod Clerk.*

J. H. MACKERRAS, *Synod Clerk.*

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PRICE 10 CENTS.

PRESBYTERIAN UNION:

A HELP TO THE

INTELLIGENT DISCUSSION OF THE QUESTION.

BY AN ELDER.

(Douglas Brymner)
Some time Editor of the Presbyterian
in connection with
the Church of
Scotland.
Alas!

Toronto:
HUNTER, ROSE & COMPANY, PRINTERS AND PUBLISHERS.
1873.

5

PRESBYTERIAN UNION.

INTRODUCTORY.

WHAT is called a "Basis of Union" has been sent down to the Presbyteries, Kirk Sessions and Congregations of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland. The vagueness of the statements contained in the articles embodied in the "Basis" is such, that many of those who are most strongly opposed to the project may have some difficulty in meeting the plausible arguments founded on this document for a junction of the interests of the different Presbyterian bodies in the Dominion. It must be remembered, that it is not merely to obtain the assent of Congregations to the theoretical statements contained in the Articles, that they are sent down by Synod. That assent to abstract propositions is to be made use of to bring about the abolition of the branch of the Church of Scotland in Canada. Such a consummation has for some time been aimed at, by a small section of the members of Synod, who, by bringing up their demands year after year, and by other means, have been insidiously sapping the strength of the Church. By the careful concealment of the real grounds of difference between the Presbyterian bodies in the articles sent down for adoption, those who conscientiously desire to maintain the existence of their Church, have been made to appear as factious bigots, prejudiced and narrow in their views. It is on many grounds, therefore, desirable that the true nature and bearing of the proposals may be understood, and the ground taken by those who

intend to adhere to their Church, whatever difficulties they may encounter, may be fully appreciated.

In discussing this grave and serious question, it is necessary to glance at the steps which preceded the schism in Canada. It has been the common argument with those who insist that we should give up our separate existence as a Church, that we, in Canada, have nothing to do with old world notions imported from Scotland or elsewhere. But this objection comes with a bad grace from those who appear by their actions to approve of the conduct of men who rent asunder the United Church in 1844, on grounds utterly unreasonable and most reprehensible. But apart from this, we might as well attempt to write the history of Canada, and leave out all that preceded the year 1867; or the history of the United States, leaving out the events previous to the Revolution, which made, of the thirteen revolted Provinces, an independent nation; or the history of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, blotting out from the volume all the struggles, the heartburnings, the strifes that had marked the years during which they were three separate kingdoms, taking up the tale only after the Act of Union was passed with Ireland. Could any one hope by such a method of writing history to account for the events now passing; for the motives for action which now exist; for the differences of opinion which now prevail? The thing is too monstrously absurd to be seriously discussed. Yet this is what we are asked to do in the present case on grounds equally absurd. It would be like taking a philosophical view of the history and actions of Punch and Judy, leaving out of account the doings of the man behind the checked curtain, who pulls the strings, and sets the puppets in motion. Blot out the past records of the history of Canada, and how easy it might become to argue for the absorption of the Dominion into the neighbouring Republic.

I.

THE SCHISM IN SCOTLAND.

Of the events which preceded the schism in Canada, I shall speak as briefly as possible, yet they cannot be dismissed in a few sparkling phrases, even if I had the talent so to compress them. For many years the Church of Scotland was, in ecclesiastical matters, paramount in her own country. There were other religious bodies, it is true, but they were weak in numbers and influence. As a consequence of this state of things, certain abuses had crept in, and a coldness and apathy existed on the part of too many, laity as well as clergy. Nor is this remarkable. The history of all religious bodies, which have become too powerful to dread control or to fear opposition, proves the rule to be universal. But a new element entered into the mass. The Reform Bill of 1832 roused into more vigorous action the Voluntaries, Dissenters, and other seceding bodies of Presbyterians. The names I use to describe these are not given out of disrespect, such being the titles by which they themselves chose to be known. They believed, that the extension of the suffrage afforded them an opportunity of attacking the Church of Scotland, and of having her disestablished. They united, therefore, for this purpose, but for no other, until some fifteen years after, when they formed what is now known as the United Presbyterian Church. The attack naturally roused the members of the Church of Scotland to defence, and prominent among the defenders were to be found a number of young ministers, who in many respects closely resembled the Ritualists of the Church of England. There was the same fiery zeal, not always tempered with discretion; the same priestly assumption; the same exalted idea of the respect which was due by others to the office they held; the same belief that they were the chosen of the earth, and that all civil and social laws must bend to their authority. What gave power to both was their evident sincerity and energy;

both had the same weakness—a strong and pervading belief that their office freed them from responsibilities to which other men are subject. The High Church Party of the Church of Scotland did not confine themselves purely to the defence. They carried on offensive operations against her opponents; denounced Voluntaries as infidels, and pronounced on those who differed from them in opinion as to the Scriptural sanction for Church establishments, the sentence of eternal condemnation, as they subsequently did on the Ministers of the Church of Scotland, when they themselves had left her pale. I would speak with all respect of these men, who were no doubt sincere; but sincerity is no proof of the truth, otherwise how could the testimony be resisted of the Hindoo devotees, who endure, for the sake of their religion, tortures almost, it would seem, too great for human endurance? No doubt in all sincerity, they falsely arrogated to themselves the exclusive claim to the credit for all the progress made by the Church of Scotland, and exclaimed as they left the venerable Assembly Halls in 1843, that they saw the Shekinah remove, and the Spirit of God depart from the desecrated sanctuary. These are the recorded words of the men who declared the Church of Scotland to be a moral pestilence, and the one man to be avoided in every parish, as foul and tainted with the leprosy of sin, to be the Parish Minister. Such men, in spite of their assertions to the contrary, were not the only Ministers of the Church of Scotland who worked for her spiritual advancement. There were others as good, as earnest as they, but with more judgment; as zealous, but with more discretion. The subsequent history of the Church proves this beyond dispute.

The movement consequent on the Reform Bill brought into existence two parties in the Church, and the question of patronage was brought into prominence by the attacks of those who opposed all church establishments, and sought for the weakest points. It is not to be denied that there were evils connected with the administration of patronage. Yet these might have been removed without contravening the law. The Call from the people had become a nullity, the observance of that preliminary

to settlement not having been enforced. The law was clear, and could have been restored without disturbing the existing order of things. Dr. Chalmers advised, that as the Call had been rendered a nullity, by the decisions given by the General Assembly on individual cases, so by a series of opposite decisions, it could be restored to significance and effect. He proposed that the question should be sent down to Presbyteries, that it might be decided by them what amount of signatures to the Call should be required, and that, acting on their determination, the Supreme Court might establish sound precedents. That would have been a legal course; but he was overruled by others, far less able than he, but more determined to establish the authority of the Church Courts at the expense of the people. The first false step was taken; the Veto Law was passed, by which the power of the parishioners was restricted, and the decision as to the choice of a minister practically put into the hands of the clergy. Under the laws of the land, *all* the parishioners had the right to call or object; under the Veto Law, only the male heads of families being communicants were entitled to be heard. The object of the more violent of the party was to transfer the patronage from the lay patrons to the clergy, a policy which has since been carried out by the Free Church, both in Scotland and in this country. With the same end in view, they tried to secure what was called, in ecclesiastical jargon, the *liberum arbitrium*, which has been justly defined as "a discretionary and "irresponsible power to determine, not judicially, nor according to "any ascertained rule, but arbitrarily in every case." To the Veto Law Dr. Chalmers was greatly opposed, and writing some years after its enactment, when the evils had arisen which he had believed to be inevitable, he said: "The Church came into her "present difficulties, not by my advice, but in opposition to it."

The evil effects of such assumptions were soon felt. In whatever light the law of patronage may be regarded, no man can deny that so long as the law existed its provisions must be obeyed. The patron having presented, the presentee had a right to be put on his trials, and had this been done the whole battle would have been fought out in the Church Courts: no Civil Court would

have ventured to interfere with what, had the views of Dr. Chalmers prevailed, would have been a purely ecclesiastical question. But the leaders in the movement not only refused to follow the safe course he had pointed out; they took another, and one more dangerous. When he saw that it was determined to pass the Veto Law, he urged, by all the arguments it was in his power to adduce, that they should make immediate application to Government for an Act to sanction the change of law, which he felt it was beyond the power of the Church to make. But this, on the advice of Lord Moncrieff, who unfortunately was allowed to mislead the General Assembly, they refused to do, ostentatiously setting at defiance the laws of the land, which in every free country must be observed by clergy and laity alike, or all liberty is in danger. It is possible that before men's passions became aroused the Veto Law might have been sanctioned. That would not have made it better, but it would have prevented the unseemly contests between the Civil and Ecclesiastical Courts. It would have removed the patronage from the hands of the lay patrons, but would have transferred it to the clergy, a more dangerous body than the other to be entrusted with such powers. Founding upon the Veto Law, when a presentee asked to be put on his trials, the Church Courts might refuse. In such a case he would then, as every man is entitled to do whose civil rights are threatened, apply to the Civil Courts. They would, thereupon, issue injunctions to the Presbytery, *not* to induct the presentee into the charge, as has so often and so falsely been alleged, but to put him on his trials. Had that been done—and, I repeat, that was the course recommended by Dr. Chalmers—no conflict could have arisen. The presentee, if rejected, could have appealed to the Synod, and from that Court an appeal would lie to the General Assembly. Had the Church Courts adhered to the law of the land their action would have been unchallengeable, but they persisted in breaking and disobeying the law of the land, and were compelled to submit, as all other individuals or bodies of men must do. The fight was for an ecclesiastical tyranny on the part of the clergy, carried on under the pretence that it was for the rights of the people. It was resisted by those who held that to

give any body of men the right to say what laws they would or would not obey, was to break down the very foundations of civil liberty.

The *British Quarterly Review*, the organ of the Nonconformists, says, regarding their claims: "They claim not only entire spirit-"ual independence, but the uncontrolled power to determine what "it is that constitutes such independence. Of all the theories that "have been broached on the subject, the theory of the Free Church-"man is the most impracticable, inasmuch as it makes provision, "either for encroachments, at the will of the Church, on the rights "and arrangements of parties who are least of all disposed to sub-"mit to such interference, or for perpetual disagreements between "the civil and ecclesiastical powers—a state of things alike incon-"sistent with the peace of society and the prosperity of religion." These are words worth considering, coming from a publication which has always contended for the fullest freedom in religious matters.

There was another infraction of the law which tended still further to complicate matters. It was found that population had so increased, that church accommodation was not sufficient in the parish churches. A large number of chapels were built, which were subordinate to the parish churches, and became known as Chapels of Ease. As they increased, great inconvenience was found to result from there being no Kirk Sessions attached to them, and, consequently, that the ministers who filled these charges had no seats in the Church Courts. This inconvenience might have been easily and legally remedied, and since the disruption it has to a great extent been removed. A short and inexpensive process before the Court of Teinds, the legal tribunal for erecting new parishes, would have been sufficient for the purpose, and thus the presence in the Church Courts of the ministers and representative elders from the new parishes would have been legally invulnerable and safe from attack. But the same men who insisted on their power to pass the Veto Law also insisted that by their own inherent power they could pass a law giving to chapel ministers the full status of parish ministers. They dignified the chapels with the name of Parish Churches *quoad sacra*, thus establishing

charges with all the worst features of the Voluntary and State Churches, without the excellencies of either. They had as much right, by their own mere motion, to give seats in the Church Courts to the chapel ministers, who were simply town missionaries, acting under instructions from the Kirk Session of the parish in which the work of each lay, as congregations here would have to make their ministers members of Municipal Councils, in defiance of the law of the land. Just as the ratepayers, in the latter case, would plead the illegal constitution of the Council if they objected to a municipal rate, however necessary that rate might be, and however just, had it been legally imposed, so did those whose rights were invaded by illegally constituted Church Courts appeal to the laws of the land. The effect of the illegal constitution of the Church Courts was still more prejudicial. It rendered them helpless to remedy the grossest abuses. Hence arose scandals which did not affect the Church of Scotland alone, but injured the cause of religion itself. Were a minister, notorious as leading an immoral life, to be summoned before one of these illegally-constituted Courts, he would do what every criminal does. He would at once raise the legal objection to its constitution, and apply for protection to the nearest Civil Court having jurisdiction. On proof being presented that men who had no legal right to be there were sitting as members of the Church Court which issued the citation for the party accused to appear before it, the Judge had no alternative but to obey the law laid down for his guidance. He was compelled to issue, as a matter of course, an interdict against further proceedings being taken, and, to the great scandal of religion the accused escaped trial. This was used as part of the stock-in-trade of the non-intrusion agitators. They represented the decision of the Judge as an invasion by the civil power on the spiritual functions of the Church; as a tearing off of Christ's crown and trampling it in the dust. Godly, honest, simple-minded men, who knew nothing beyond the facts, and these facts only as shown to them through a distorted medium, firmly believed that the Judges of the land were in the habit of sallying out of the Courts over which they presided, and in the most violent manner interfering personally with the actions of the Church Courts.

There could not, of course, be a more ridiculous nor a grosser misrepresentation. The Civil Courts were appealed to, in the cases supposed, on a point of law, and gave their decision as the law directed, in the same way as the Civil Courts here would decide, that a Municipal Council could not legally impose taxes, if there were men sitting at the Council Board who had not been legally elected to do so. No Corporation, whether it be civil or ecclesiastical, can usurp illegal powers. That is so plain that it seems a waste of time to discuss such a question. Yet the position taken up by those who seceded from the Church of Scotland in 1843 was this: They attempted to assume powers contrary to the laws of the land, and then proclaimed themselves martyrs, because the law prevented them from carrying their illegal assumptions into effect, and from trampling on the rights of others who did not think like them.

The bitterness of theologians is proverbial, and the contest in the Church of Scotland at this time might serve as a confirmation of the truth of the prevailing belief on this subject. Two hostile camps were formed: the one active, restless, self-asserting and loud in its pretensions; the noise of its paper artillery resounding through all the parishes of Scotland—rumbling along the mountain sides and penetrating into the low-lying valleys. Tracts, pamphlets, dreams even, were brought into play. Not a vacant parish was left undisturbed for a day. Agitators flocked into it from every quarter, and the wrongs of the parishioners were so eloquently depicted that they themselves were moved to tears at the story of oppressions they had not until then known they had suffered. The other was more calm, and acted chiefly on the defence. To the side of the High Church party was attracted the greater part of the chapel ministers who had been illegally admitted into the Church Courts. It would have been strange had it been otherwise. They owed their official existence in the Church Courts to an illegal Act, passed by the party to which they now adhered, and they therefore, as a body, supported pretensions whose defeat would end their parochial life. It was by the assistance given by the *quoad sacra* ministers in the inferior Church Courts that the dominant party was able to pack

the General Assembly for some years, leading to the belief that it formed the majority of the Church of Scotland—a belief shown to be erroneous when the secession took place. Many of the *quoad sacra* ministers had belonged to the old seceding bodies. To be a parish minister has been a laudable ambition on the part of young men in Scotland, and the power by a stroke of the pen to erect parishes, although these were only *quoad sacra*, was made use of to induce these dissenting ministers to join the Church of Scotland. If they were not real parish ministers, they were a good imitation; they were useful in voting on measures, and looked well in statistical tables. Nor was much scruple shown by the non-intrusion party as to the means used for obtaining the property of the religious denominations to which the new adherents had belonged. One of these transactions became notorious under the name of the Campbelton case, it being shown at the trial, which resulted from the attempt to alienate property belonging to the Relief Church, that secret intrigues were carried on by the leaders of what was afterwards the Free Church; that Lord Moncrieff decided in favour of his friends; that Drs. Chalmers, Cunningham and Candlish, Mr. Alexander Dunlop, their law adviser, and others, subscribed largely, organized committees and strained every nerve to destroy the dissenting bodies in Scotland, by the most extraordinary misinterpretations of the law, held to be correct by Lord Moncrieff, but afterwards reversed on appeal. The official organ of the dissenting bodies in Scotland, referring to these and other attempts of a like nature, says editorially: "We have ground of com-
" plaint against the leading men who now belong to the Free Church.
" We complain of their heartless attempts to destroy the Christian
" privileges and liberties of all the dissenting churches in Scotland,
" and that too when they were contending so strenuously for the
" supremacy of the Redeemer's crown in the Church with which they
" were connected ..... It is our opinion that the Free Church
" is more sectarian than any of the larger Christian denominations
" in Scotland. When they were the non-intrusion section, after the
" voluntary controversy had commenced, they would hold no reli-
" gious intercourse with those who did not belong to the establish-

"ment. They broke up schools and schemes of benevolence—
"missionary societies, foreign and domestic—prayer meetings—
"because they would not associate with any who advocated the
"voluntary principle. And now that they are the Free Church
"dissenters, they will hold no religious association with those who
"belong to an establishment. They refuse to meet with them upon
"the same platform, and to advocate the cause of the London Mis-
"sionary Society. They will give no assistance to a series of public
"lectures for the intellectual and moral improvement of young men,
"if the list of lecturers be tainted by the addition of a single name
"of an established minister. Nay, an instance came under our obser-
"vation a short time ago, of a Free Church minister refusing to pray
"at a funeral, solely because an established minister was requested
"to officiate at one of the services. Free Church sectarianism is
"throwing all our catholic societies into derangement, and in every
"proposed public movement for good, one of the first questions
"started is this: 'Will the Free Church go along with you, if you
"invite Christian men of every denomination to co-operate with
"you in your benevolent scheme?' "

It has been necessary to enter into these details in order to show the composition of the non-intrusion party, that the motives for taking the stand they did may be understood, and also to explain the apparent sacrifice of their livings made by many who in reality sacrificed only a nominal position. The extracts from the organ of the dissenting body, which would naturally have sympathised with the latest seceders from the Church of Scotland, will show the tone and temper displayed by them in their intercourse with their brethren, and will enable some, at least, to see clearly the violent temper displayed and the reason for the little success which attended the efforts of those who counselled moderation. Many attendant circumstances arose which served to distract attention from the real question at issue. In reality the whole dispute was involved in the two points I have named, namely, the enactment of the Veto Law and the assumption of power to give seats in the Church Courts to an indefinite number of men, who legally had no such right. Other questions no doubt branched out from these,

but they lay at the root of the matter, which in turn sprang from the old claim of ecclesiastical domination and irresponsibility.

How little they cared for the rights of the people, and how much for the power of the clergy, is very clearly brought out in the course of the negotiations with the different Governments which were in power. Offers were repeatedly made to extend the powers of the people, but refused by the clergy, who demanded that the power of the Church should be increased. In a letter written by Mr. Alexander Dunlop, a strenuous supporter of the irresponsibility of the clergy, and dated 4th May, 1842, he says: "So far as I have "been able to judge of the sentiments and feelings of statesmen, I "think their hostility to the Church's independence is far more "intense and inveterate than their hostility to the people having a "voice, and most of them would willingly barter the latter for the "former—*i.e.*, acknowledge it if *we* would give up the other." The truth is, the strongest adherents of the non-intrusion party were the inveterate Tories, who had a thorough contempt for popular rights, and it was only after their attempts to override these had been defeated, that they became the thorough-going Liberals they have since become. Nothing like a convert for zeal! The ablest and most liberal statesmen of the country, who tried to remove the grievances complained of by the clergy, were compelled to declare that their duty to the community at large prevented them from granting the demands made. Sir Robert Peel stated in the House of Commons that, if the rights of the subject could be maintained consistently with the demands of the Church, he would be induced to make almost any concession to obtain tranquillity. But, he added, if the House of Commons is prepared to depart from those principles on which the Reformation was founded, and which principles are essential to the maintenance of the civil and religious liberties of the country, nothing but evil would result; the greatest evil of which would be the establishment of religious domination, which would alike endanger the religion of the country and the civil rights of man.

It has been absolutely necessary to give this sketch of the position of affairs; otherwise what has taken place in Canada would be unintelligible. In the sketch which follows, I will restrict

myself, as far as possible, to the facts as set forth in the "Proceedings of the Synod" recorded at the time, supplementing this, however, with such information as is necessary to make the facts intelligible, clothing the bare, dry bones of Synod Minutes with flesh and skin, and giving them such measure of life as is possible to one who lacks the divine afflatus which is able to bestow the martyr's crown on the keen-eyed ecclesiastic thirsting for power, and to transform the eager and bitter claimant for more despotic privileges to his order, into the self-denying champion for the people's liberties.

II.

THE SCHISM IN CANADA.

It could not be expected that the claims set up and the discussions that had arisen in the Church of Scotland could pass unobserved by the ministers in Canada. In 1841, the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland resolved to petition Her Majesty and the Imperial Parliament, in support of all the *just rights and claims* of the Church of Scotland, and that the secular Courts be prevented from all interference with the *spiritual* concerns of the Church. It was a very guarded and cautious petition, and one not likely to lead to much difference of opinion. But the very tone of the language used, guarded as it is, affords in itself a strong proof of the nature of the statements circulated by the non-intrusion party, and what efforts were made to poison the minds of men everywhere, and to blind them as to the true character of the struggle that was taking place. In 1842, the Synod sent a message of sympathy to the Church of Scotland in the course taken. To what took place in 1843 I shall afterwards refer. In 1844, the following resolutions were unanimously agreed to, with the exception of the one to which the name of the dissentient is marked.

"The adherents of the Church in this Province have ample liberty in the election of their ministers.

"There has been no interference whatever, on the part of the Civil Powers, with any of our Ecclesiastical Courts.

"There is not at present, so far as can be reasonably judged, any prospect of such interference with the Ecclesiastical Courts."

From this resolution Mr. Gale dissented.

"There is no external or legal let or hindrance to the extension of the Church in this Province.

"*Therefore, the alleged causes of disruption at home do not exist here*;" and to this, as to the others, are appended the words, "Agreed to by all."

These resolutions were passed on the 4th of July, 1844. Two days after, in the face of a deliberate statement, agreed to unanimously after long discussion, that "the alleged causes of disruption at home do not exist here," a motion was made by Mr. Bayne, seconded by Mr. Gale, that the Synod shall declare "that the peculiar connection which has hitherto subsisted between them and "the Established Church of Scotland shall from this time forth cease "and determine, and that any peculiar privileges that may have "been understood to belong in virtue of that connection to her ministers and elders seeking admission into this church shall, in like "manner, be withdrawn." The motion was rejected, 20 ministers and 20 elders having voted in support of it. These 40 members of the Synod had come to the conclusion on the 4th of July, after solemn and protracted deliberation, that "the alleged causes of disruption at home do not exist here," yet on the 9th of July, five days after, they needlessly and causelessly, themselves being witnesses, rent asunder that branch of the Church of Christ with which they had been connected, and which had then, and has had ever since, the utmost freedom.

Being defeated, the minority withdrew, and, imitating the example set by the malcontents in Scotland, they left behind a protest, as the foundation of the new ecclesiastical body. It was the sole *raison d'être* of their separate existence; it has never been withdrawn; it is still regarded as vital by those who adhere to the organization formed by the action of those who formulated it and laid it on the table of the Synod from which they withdrew, and its terms have repeatedly been invoked by many of the members of the seceding body as presenting a barrier to any Union with the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland. By that protest every member of the latter Church is branded as unfaithful to the Great Head of the Church; as being, to put it in plain terms, no Christian at all, and as out of the pale of salvation. If the members of that Church consent to its annihilation as a separate religious body, they acknowledge that all the charges in the protest were well founded; that the Church and all its ministers, members and adherents have been for all these years guilty of disowning Christ; that she has in reality been

no Church at all, but simply a collection of individuals making a mockery of religion; that the Church of Scotland, which has, ever since the disruption, now thirty years ago, been actively, faithfully and efficiently doing the great work laid on her to do, has during that period been nothing but a moral pestilence which ought to be removed. Are the members of the branch of the Church of Scotland in Canada prepared to acknowledge this? Are they prepared to brand with shame and dishonour not only their own names, but the names of the great and good men who have done so much and so faithfully to carry the Gospel into all the ends of the earth? But, we are told, this is a mere historical document; it is thirty years old, and most of the men who signed it, or took part in the proceedings which led to it, are dead! Take the same view of the foundations of Christianity and see to what it would lead. The Bible is a series of historical documents; the great central point towards which our faith is directed is to be found in a scene which took place in Judea nearly nineteen hundred years ago; all the men who took part in the events of these days are gone. Would any man pretend to say we must give up our hold of the "historical documents" which relate to these facts, and join the "Free Religious movement," whose blasphemous supporters met lately in New York, on the ground set forth as an argument for blotting our Church out of existence? The argument could not stand for a moment.

What does the Protest say? It charges the Church of Scotland with corruption and with yielding to the dictation of the State, and stigmatises as false to their vows all who adhere to the Church, which the authors of the Protest had a few days before declared there was no cause for leaving. It says that the Church in Canada "was bound to testify against the defections and cor-"ruptions of the Church of Scotland; that the due and proper tes-"timony against the defections and corruptions of the said Estab-"lished Church of Scotland was a termination of the peculiarly "close and intimate connection in which the Synod stood to her." It then goes on to say that the Church in Canada "is *lending the* "*weight of her influence to the support of principles which are in-*"*compatible with the purity and liberty of any Church, and which*

"*are fitted to do grievous injury to the cause of the Redeemer* "*throughout the world.*" It further states, that "*by leaving an* "*open door for the admission of ministers and elders from the Church of Scotland, holding unsound views on the great princi-* "*ples aforesaid, they have most seriously endangered the purity of* "*the Church*, and brought even her independence into peril, through "the *probable introduction* of office bearers, prepared to submit to "the same encroachments of the civil powers by which the Church "of Scotland has been *enslaved.*" Further, it declares that "sin in "matters fundamental has been done by this Court," and that those who make this Protest "*can no longer with a clear conscience* "hold office in the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection "with the Church of Scotland."

It was hoped that when the evil influences that had been used to break up the Church had been withdrawn, the schismatics would return to the Church they had left. Accordingly, in September, 1844, two months after the Protest had been left, a committee of Synod was appointed to confer with the seceding brethren. Finding, however, at the conference which took place, that the sentiments unequivocally expressed by the "seceding brethren in re-"gard to the Church of Scotland, were such that the committee "concluded to hold them as a bar to all negotiations, *in limine*, the "conference terminated."

The nature of the steps taken by the seceders in Scotland to break up the Church here, may be seen by the remonstrance addressed by the Synod to the Moderator of that body. I make no apology for the length of the extracts. The remonstrance begins: "We, the Ministers and Elders of the Presbyterian "Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, in "Synod assembled, feel ourselves constrained by an imperative sense "of duty to ourselves, and to the people under our care, to address "to your Church a few words of remonstrance, respecting the course "of conduct which you have pursued towards the Presbyterian "Church in this country." The following extracts will show the grievances complained of: "Amid many difficulties and priva-"tions, we were engaged in the peaceful prosecution of our labours "in this extensive region. In such circumstances we should natu-

"rally have expected, from all churches professing the same faith, "every possible encouragement and assistance. It was, therefore, "with much surprise and regret that we observed, in some of the "organs of the Free Church, expressions of a desire to produce, or "at least to countenance, a disruption in our Synod, and division "and strife among our congregations. We were, for a time, willing "to ascribe this to ignorance of our condition, or to a want of "due consideration of the position of our Church; but from the sub-"sequent conduct of the Free Church in publishing and sending out "letters, addresses, and other documents calculated to excite the "feelings of our people, and commissioning deputations for the same "purpose, we are compelled, however unwillingly, to conclude, that "there exists a desire on the part of the leaders of that Church to "disturb and distract the congregations under our care. We cannot "regard such conduct as wise, generous or Christian. * * *

"We certainly had a right to expect, that before being accused "of acting from unworthy motives and exposed to unjust censures, "both here and in Scotland, as being indifferent or hostile to the "Redeemer's cause, we should have been, at the very least, request-"ed, in a calm and Christian manner, to state the reasons for our "conduct.

"We cannot but feel ourselves deeply aggrieved, when we see "charges which we must characterise as reckless and unwarrantable, "brought against those who, to say the least, have been as faithful "and laborious in the service of the Lord, as they who bring forward "such allegations; men who have borne the burden and heat of the "day, who have spent years of ill-requited labour in gathering in "those who, but for their exertions, would have been strangers to the "means of grace. * * Why should the late division in our Synod, "—a division which may justly be termed *the most perfectly un-"called for, the most utterly unaccountable schism which ever took "place in the Church of Christ*,—be encouraged and perpetuated by "your influence, instead of being healed, as it might possibly be, by "your interposition? Why should the able and zealous mission-"aries you send among us exert their energies in endeavouring to "distract, that is, to destroy our settled congregations, instead of "carrying the message of salvation into those numerous places of

"our land where a preacher's voice is seldom heard? * * * *
"We are fully convinced, that it would conduce to your honour
"and advantage, no less than to our peace and welfare, to adopt a
"course of conduct more liberal, more conciliatory and more
"Christian." So ended the first stage of the schism in Canada.

III.

ATTEMPTED PARRICIDE.

In tracing the subsequent steps toward a re-union, proposals for which, it must be borne in mind, have always come from a small section of the Church of Scotland in Canada, it is necessary to revert to what took place in 1843. Two figures are conspicuous in urging a union with the seceding brethren. The one, that of Dr. Cook, of Quebec; the other, that of Dr. George, professor in Queen's College, now deceased. I desire to attribute to these reverend leaders of the Church no motives but such as are honourable to them, but if the reason for the *apparent* anxiety for union exhibited by the Church to which they belonged is to be arrived at, the part they have taken cannot be left out of sight. At Toronto, in July, 1843 (previous to the secession), a resolution was moved by Mr. Stark, seconded by *Dr. George*, expressing in the strongest possible terms the warmest sympathies of the Synod with the Free Church, "on account of the inestimable principles they "contend for;" and it continues, "they excite our highest admira-"tion and gratitude for the almost unappreciable sacrifices, not only "of interest but of feeling, in the noble struggle which they have "maintained, and in the noble stand which they have taken against "encroachments on their spiritual functions," and so on, and pledging the Synod "to express solemnly and openly their support of "the great general views entertained by the seceding parties," &c. *Dr. Cook*, on the same occasion, moved a resolution setting forth the solemn testimony of the Synod on behalf of the claims set up by the Free Church; the pain and alarm felt by the Synod at the conduct of the supreme authorities of the State, in rejecting the claims recently made by the Church of Scotland; and the Synod, it goes on to say, "do hereby record their deep and affectionate "sympathy with those of her rulers and members who, leaving the "Establishment at the bidding of conscience, have thereby sacri-"ficed temporal interests and personal feelings," &c.

At Kingston in July, 1844, *Dr. Cook* moved, seconded by *Dr. George*, a series of resolutions, one clause of which was, "that it is "expedient to abstain for the present from any correspondence with "the Parent Church." Dr. George subsequently became Professor of Systematic Theology in Queen's College, and it is no imputation on his character to say, that with the views he entertained of the ecclesiastical struggle in Scotland, it was impossible for him to give other impressions regarding the claims made and rejected, than that they were just and well founded. Full credence must be given to the assertions of those students who, even before obtaining their licence, were strong advocates for union, that Dr. George did not attempt to influence them. Consciously, it may be, he did not, but after he had openly moved in the matter; after his public expressions of opinion, it is difficult to see how the exertion of a certain amount of influence could be avoided. During the sessions of 1858–9 and of 1859–60, Dr. Cook acted as Principal of Queen's College. I have no intention of using the argument *post hoc ergo propter hoc*, but simply desire to give events in the order of their occurrence. In the latter year (1860), the Synod met at Kingston. On the day the Synod meeting came to an end, and within an hour or two of its closing, when the large majority of the members had left, Dr. George suddenly introduced an overture on the subject of Union with other Presbyterian bodies. It was moved by Mr. George Bell, that a Committee consisting of *Dr. George*, who presented the overture, *Dr. Cook* and some others, "be appointed to consider the subject, and to be ready to meet "with brethren belonging to the other Synods, *to ascertain their* "*views and feelings on the matter* and report to next Synod." Under the circumstances, the motion was carried by a small majority, the question having come on nearly all unexpectedly, and several members voting in the affirmative without reflection. Mr. Bell appears to have gone alone to the seceding body, where he was received, naturally enough, with effusion, the seceders believing, as they had a perfect right to do, that the Synod of the Church of Scotland in Canada had come to sue for pardon and to atone for her sins in "lending the weight of her influence to the support "of principles incompatible with the purity and liberty of any

"church." They had never held out any hopes of reconciliation; had made no overtures for re-union, were, in fact, doing all they could to break up the congregations of the Church of Scotland in Canada, and they subsequently used the ill-advised, however well meant, proposals of Dr. George and his friends as an instrument for their own aggrandizement. The minute of the Synod of 1861, on the subject, reads as follows: "A document *purporting* to be "a report of the Committee on Union between this Church and the "Presbyterian Churches in the Province, and a minute of a meeting "*purporting* to be a meeting of the Committee on Union, were read." Why these terms were used will plainly appear by the resolution which follows: "It was moved by *Dr. Cook*, that Dr. George's "report be received, and that the thanks of the Synod be given to "Dr. George, for his attention to the business entrusted to him by "the Synod, *for his judicious conduct in calling to his aid, in* AB-"SENCE OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED BY THE SYNOD, *so many able "and tried friends of the Church*, and for so decidedly refraining from "committing himself or the Synod to any basis or terms of union, "while yet ascertaining that there was a friendly spirit open to "further and more definite negotiation in the other Presbyterian "bodies in the Province; appoint a Committee to prepare such basis "of union for this Church to agree to, and to receive any communi-"cation or overture on the subject of union which *may be sent* to "them from committees of other Presbyterian bodies," and so on. Next day the motion was discussed and rejected, an amendment that the Committee be not reappointed having been carried.

In Dr. Cook's motion, two points are noticeable. One, that the members of the Committee appointed by the Synod at the previous meeting, under the circumstances already stated, did not consider themselves authorized to do anything by virtue of the remit made to them, and Dr. George had, therefore, taken counsel with certain unnamed individuals, described in the motion as "able and tried friends of the Church." (To the minutes of the seceding body I am indebted for a knowledge of the fact that Mr. Bell alone appeared before them.) The other is, that no movement whatever had been made by the other Presbyterian bodies towards reconciliation.

The Church had been growing steadily up till this time, and as the funds in the hands of the Temporalities' Board were limited, the new ministers added to the roll had no prospect of any assistance from that source. It being found that the new and outlying settlements, which it was the duty of the Church to occupy, were suffering from the want of Gospel ordinances, the people being necessarily poor and requiring help for a time, it was resolved to raise a permanent "Home Mission Fund." Deputations visited many of the congregations in the eastern part of Upper Canada (now Ontario), and settled charges in Lower Canada (now Quebec). The result was most encouraging. In the partial returns presented in the report to the Synod of 1860, it was shown that in a comparatively small number of congregations nearly $22,000 had been subscribed, and that that sum would be very greatly increased when the year's returns had been received; that local committees had been formed, and that a very large amount would be raised for planting new churches. In addition to this, the collections for the "Contingent Account," the fund for meeting current charges, had not only not fallen off, but had, on the contrary, never before been nearly so liberal. The report for 1861 showed a still further and very considerable addition to the permanent fund. But all these hopes, which were to a great extent realities, for the hearts of the people had been stirred, were dashed to the ground. Under the plea that the annual revenue did not meet the annual expenditure, the permanent fund for missionary work was encroached upon; the subscriptions for St. Andrew's Church, in the City of Quebec, amounting to upwards of $10,000, were frittered away; the collections for the "Contingent Account" were not made by many of the friends of union; the local agencies, which had been well organized, and were effective, were discouraged, and a damp thrown over the adherents of the Church. The reiterated demands on the part of a small fraction of the ministers of the Church to put an end to her existence were telling with most disastrous effect, for the people, uncertain of the future, which but a short time before looked so bright, had become chilled in their efforts, not knowing to what they would lead.

The weakness produced by discouraging every effort at extension has ever since been made use of as an argument for the annihilation of the Church. On the part of the great bulk of pastors and people, there has been no desire—there is not now any desire—to have her blotted out of existence. Beyond the small knot of union men, those who now submit to what they believe to be the inevitable, do so from a feeling of dull despair at the future of a Church which, freed from the constant irritation to which it is exposed, would be active, energetic—a living, moving, growing body. When it was proposed to send missionaries to British Columbia, the members of the Union party opposed the suggestion, and it fell to the ground; when the propriety of forming charges in Manitoba and the North-West was urged, the Union party assented to it, but on the condition that the minister sent should be placed under the control of the other Presbyterian body, and so for the time the work was effectually killed. After long delay, a minister was sent, but so well had the spirit of the members of Synod been killed, that the party in, but scarcely of, the Church was suffered to instruct him that he was to report to the denomination which had denounced the members of the Church they had left as faithless to their vows. As a sequel to the melancholy story, the convener of the Committee appointed to carry on the mission to Manitoba, in his report published in October, recommends that the Church to which he professes to belong should abandon the field, because it was already occupied by other Presbyterians! These are but instances out of many which could be cited. Is it not time that those who really belong to the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland should enquire what is the cause of the weakness which they deplore as inevitable? Let them reverse the treatment of the Sangrados who are bleeding the Church to death, and return to a more rational system. The people are willing to do what is required, but if they are constantly in dread of changes can they be expected to work with any heart for the advancement of a Church threatened with extinction?

There is a falling off in the colleges of the students for the Ministry. How can it be otherwise? The branch of the Church of

Scotland in Canada has always regarded, and with reason, an educated clergy as indispensable for the prosecution of the work devolving on them. And at this time more especially is an educated ministry required. A scientific infidelity, spreading everywhere by the universal diffusion of literature, has taken the place of gross and ignorant atheism. Yet the other Presbyterian bodies in this country have been, by their rules, reducing the standard of education required; have reduced it still further by their practice; have even admitted to ordination men who have not been trained at all. Is it probable that young men will enter Queen's or Morrin College, to spend laborious years in striving to qualify themselves for their profession, when they are practically told by the very professors that they may as well save themselves the trouble, as in the course of a year or two they will stand on no higher a level than those who have made no such effort?

There are not ministers coming forward to fill the vacant charges. What is this but one of the effects springing from the same cause? Men will not attach themselves to a decaying institution—one which they hear constantly proclaimed by its leaders as about to pass out of existence. It is well known to many, that a number of the best men belonging to the other Presbyterian body would have preferred to join the Church of Scotland in Canada. But why, they argued, should they become members of a Church about to be absorbed by another, when they could at once enter into communion with the more vigorous body, greatly as they might dislike much with which they would be brought into contact?

There is something in the other Presbyterian body which is wanting in the Church of Scotland in Canada. That may be affirmed with all confidence. There is a unity of purpose; an aggressive spirit; a determination on the part of the leaders of the other Church not to acknowledge weakness. These elements of success are wanting, thanks to the constant, unremitting work of a small party within the fold. The Canada Presbyterian Church is willing enough to listen to proposals for union; but with them that means the abolition, the blotting out, of the branch of the Church of Scotland here. They have heaped insult after in-

sult upon her, but "retract! no, not a hairbreadth!" They have disturbed and distracted the minds of congregations, and done everything to break them up; but "they are men of peace, and "there need be no misunderstanding—if you quietly withdraw "out of our road."

There are other causes of weakness which might be pointed out, but those who pursue the investigation searchingly will be at no loss to discover them.

It may assist some to arrive at a definite conclusion as to the course they intend to follow, if they bear in mind that even should a majority of the Synod decide to sever their connection with the Church of Scotland, there will still be left behind a fair number of ministers and adherents fully equipped for the work of the Church, with colleges, with an endowment fund, with church buildings, with a prosperous ministers', widows' and orphans' fund. To those who have watched, calmly or otherwise, with a full knowledge of the legal rights of parties, the proceedings of what *purport* to be meetings of Committees on Union, it has been amusing to see them differing in opinion about the disposal of funds: quarrelling, almost to the point of breaking off negotiations, about the position the colleges are to occupy; negotiating about the manner in which the Church they were about to enter was to raise funds commensurate with those brought in by the new adherents. Diplomacy may be regarded with admiration when it is seen employed by skilled diplomatists engaged in settling weighty questions of reality. When these gentlemen are busily engaged in discussions analogous to the carrying of water in sieves, they are apt to be looked at in a ridiculous light. To the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland belong the whole machinery and equipments now held in her name. Relieved from the incubus that has weighed on their energies, the adherents of that Church will proceed to the work given them to do, earnestly, faithfully, vigorously. They may, no doubt will, have their days of trial; they may, no doubt will, be calumniated, misrepresented, maligned: but their duty is plainly set before them, and to that duty they will devote themselves, no matter how many or how few of them

are left. The days of darkness and of trial are but the prelude to a great and glorious future, if faith to lay hold of the promises be only given to the members of the PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF CANADA IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

NEC TAMEN CONSUMEBATUR.

MINUTES OF THE SYNOD

OF THE

Presbyterian Church

OF THE

LOWER PROVINCES

OF

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

HELD AT HALIFAX, JUNE—JULY, 1874.

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MINUTES OF THE SYNOD

OF THE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

OF THE

Lower Provinces of British North America,

Held at Halifax, June—July, 1874.

FIRST SEDERUNT.

At Halifax, and in Poplar Grove Church, on the 30th day of June, 1874, and at half-past seven o'clock, P.M.

The Synod of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces of British North America, met, and in the absence of the Moderator, and by special request of the previous Moderator, the Rev. James Hood Wilson, of the Barclay Church, Edinburgh, Deputy of the Free Church of Scotland, conducted devotional exercises, and Rev. Jas. Chalmers Burns of Kirkliston, also a Deputy from the same Church, preached an able and most appropriate discourse, from the prophecies of Micah, chap. 1, and v. 7. "O thou that art named the house of Jacob, is the Spirit of the Lord straitened, are these His doings? do not My words do good to him that walketh uprightly?"

Rev. George Patterson, the Moderator for the previous year, then took the chair, and having informed the Synod that he had been requested by the Moderator to announce his unavoidable absence, proceeded to constitute the Synod in the usual manner.

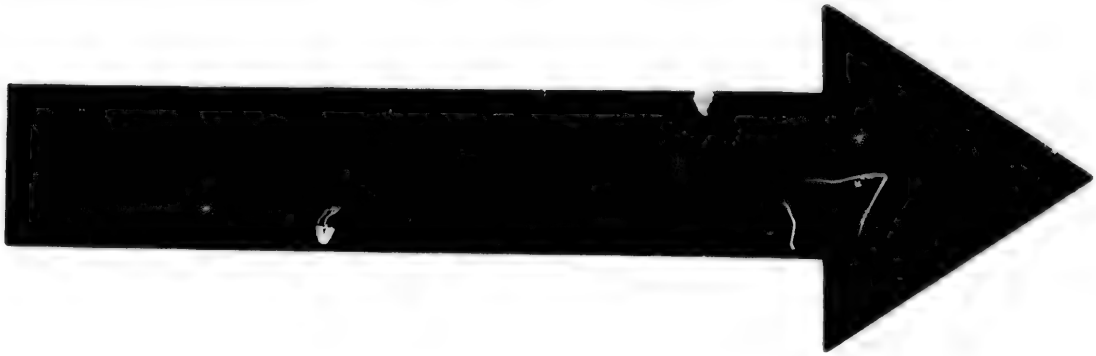
The reports of Presbyteries, of changes which occurred during the past year, affecting the Roll, were then read by the Clerk as follows: Reports of Presbyteries

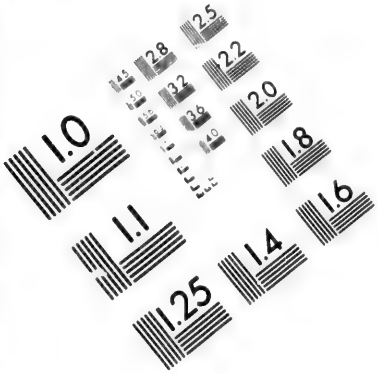
REMOVALS BY DEATH.

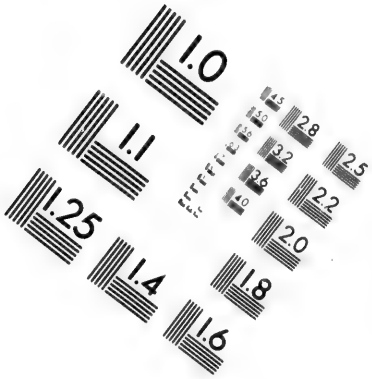
Rev. John L. Murdoch, A.M., of Windsor, in the Presbytery of Halifax, July 28th, 1873. Changes

Rev. David Roy, D.D., of James' Place, East River, in the Presbytery of Pictou, Aug. 5th, 1873.

Rev. James Fraser, minister of Boularderie, in the Presbytery of Cape Breton, April 7th, 1874.







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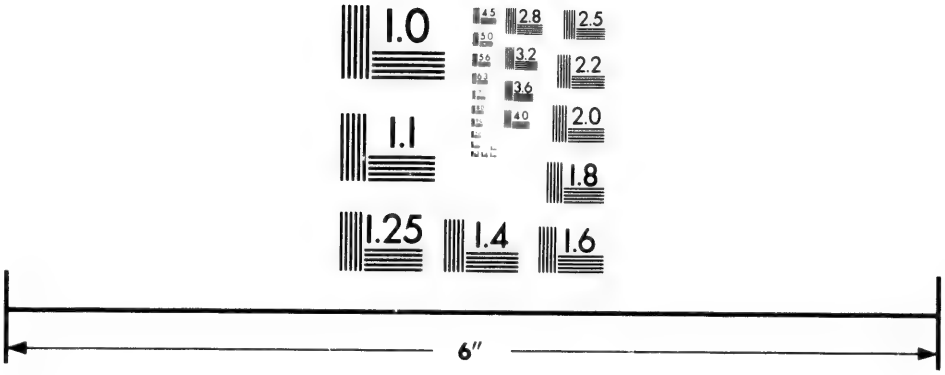

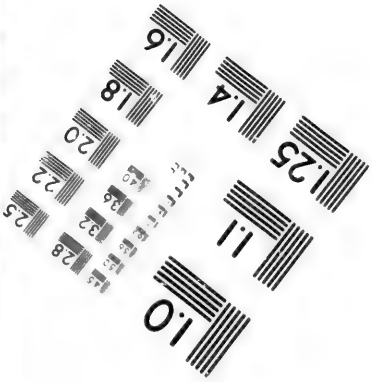

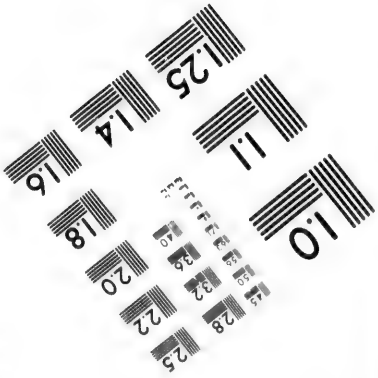

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DEMISSIONS OF CHARGE.

In the Presbytery of St. John.—Rev. Samuel McCully of the Congregation of Prince William, June 23, 1873; Rev. Samuel Houston, M. A., of the Congregation of Calvin Church, St. John, Nov. 5th, 1873; Rev. John Turnbull, of the Congregation of St. James April 18th, 1874.

INDUCTIONS.

In the Presbytery of St. John.—Rev. J. D. Murray, to Bouchtouche Cocagne and Scotch Settlement, Oct. 22, 1873, by translation from Moncton; Rev. David Waters, L.L.D., to St. David's Church, St. John, Dec. 3, 1873, by translation from St. Mary's Congregation, Ontario, in connection with the Canada Presbyterian Church.

In the Presbytery of P. E. Island.—Rev. John Sutherland, to Woodville and Little Sands Congregation, March 12th, 1874, by translation from West Bay, in the Presbytery of Victoria and Richmond.

In the Presbytery of Truro.—Rev. Alex. Cameron, to the Congregation of Riverside, July 15th, 1873.

In the Presbytery of Halifax.—Rev. A. J. Mowitt, to Windsor Congregation, July 8th, 1873, by translation from Stellarton in Pictou Presbytery; Rev. John Gauld, to the Congregation of the Gore and Kennetcook, Aug. 5th, 1873; Rev. Samuel Bernard, to the pastoral charge of Noel Congregation. June 16th, 1874; Rev. T. A. F. Sutherland, to the pastoral charge of St. Croix and Ellershause, June 22d, 1874.

In the Presbytery of Pictou.—Rev. John Lees, translated from the Congregation of Lucan in the London Presbytery of the Canada Presbyterian Church, to the Congregation of Westville and Middle River, and inducted Nov. 4th, 1873; Rev. Thomas Cumming inducted to the pastoral charge of Stellarton Congregation, Dec. 31, 1873; Rev. A. C. Gillies received from Presbytery of Brockville, in connection with the Canada Presbyterian Church, and inducted to the pastoral charge of Sherbrooke Congregation, Jan. 14th, 1874.

ORDINATIONS.

In the Presbytery of St. John.—Rev. Isaac Simpson, to the pastoral charge of Pisarinco, Nerepis and Jerusalem, July 16th, 1873.

In the Presbytery of Lunenburg and Yarmouth.—Rev. Ebenezer Millar, to the pastoral charge of the Congregation of Shelburne, Oct. 28th 1873; Rev. Thomas Christie, ordained and designated as a missionary to the Coolies in Trinidad, Oct. 30th, 1873.

In the Presbytery of Cape Breton.—Rev. Peter Clark, to the pastoral charge of the Congregation of Cape North, Nov. 12th, 1873.

In the Presbytery of Pictou.—Rev. H. McD. Scott, to Merigomish, June 23rd, 1874.

In the Presbytery of Halifax.—Rev. James Rossborough, to the pastoral charge of Musquodoboit Harbor, Clam Harbor, and Meagher's Grant, July 23rd, 1873; Rev. Kenneth F. Junor, St. Andrew's Church, Hamilton, Bermuda, Nov. 30th, 1873.

LICENSURES.

By the Presbytery of Halifax.—Messrs. John Wallace, and Hugh McD. Scott, on 19th November, 1873.

By the Presbytery of Lunenburg and Yarmouth.—Mr. E. D. Millar, July 2nd, 1873; Mr. Thomas Christie, Sept. 3rd, 1873.

By the Presbytery of St. John.—Mr. M. R. Paradis, June 4th, 1874.

NEW CONGREGATIONS.

In St. John Presbytery, the Congregation of New Kincardine in Victoria County.

In Truro Presbytery, Maccan and adjacent settlements, Oct. 13th, 1873.

In Halifax Presbytery, Lakeville and Waterville were disjoined from Kentville and formed into a separate charge, Oct. 5th, 1873.

The Roll, as modified by these changes, was then called, and the members marked 1, answered to their names. Roll called.

Reports of Presbyteries on the nomination of Moderator were read as follows:— Nom. for Moderator.

Rev. E. Ross was nominated by the Presbyteries of Truro, Tatamagouche, Lunenburgh and Yarmouth, and Cape Breton.

Rev. Professor McKnight was nominated by the Presbyteries of Halifax, St. John, Miramichi, Victoria and Richmond, and Prince Edward Island.

Rev. P. G. McGregor was nominated by the Presbytery of Pictou.

A letter was read from Rev. E. Ross, addressed to the Assistant Clerk, requesting the withdrawal of his name; after which a vote being taken, Mr. McGregor was chosen, and having taken the chair, briefly addressed the Synod expressing thanks for this mark of confidence. Moderator chosen.

The supplying of the Clerk's place was postponed till to-morrow morning.

The Report of the Committee for the arrangement of Synodical business, was then read. setting forth the subjects to come before Synod, and the order for the first Sederunt; also proposing that the hours of business shall be from 10 o'clock A. M. each day till 1 o'clock P. M., from 3 to 6 P. M., and from 7½ to 9½ P. M., half an hour to-morrow morning, and at the commencement of each evening Sederunt, to be set apart for devotional exercises. Report of Business Com.

The Report was adopted, and it was remitted to the Committee to arrange the business, so as to give prominence to the more important matters, which are to come before the Synod.

The Synod then adjourned to meet to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock, closing with the Benediction.

SECOND SEDERUNT.

Same Place, July 1st, 1871, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Synod met and was constituted by the Moderator, when one half hour was devoted to devotional exercises. The Minutes of last Sederunt were read and confirmed.

The Synod proceeded to fill the office of Clerk rendered temporarily vacant by the appointment of Mr. McGregor as Moderator, when Rev. Appointment of Clerk.

A. Falconer and Rev. G. Patterson were proposed and the former was chosen. The Rev. Thos. Sedgwick and the Rev. N. McKay were proposed as Secretary of Committee on Bills and Overtures, and Assistant Clerk of Synod, vacated by Mr. Falconer's appointment as Clerk. On a division Mr. McKay was elected, and took his place.

Assistant clerk

Dr. Topp.

The Moderator read a telegram from Dr. Topp, one of the Delegates of the Canada Presbyterian Church, stating that he could not be forward till Thursday evening, when it was resolved that the question of Union, in which he is specially interested, be not taken up till Friday morning.

Letter from Sec. of Y. M. C. Assoc'n.

A letter was read from the Secretary of the Y. M. C. Association, offering to the members of Synod a cordial invitation to the use of their Reading Room, Library, and other facilities of their new building, during the meeting of Synod. The Clerk was instructed to acknowledge the letter and thank the Association for their kind offer.

Thanks to Messrs. Wilson & Burns.

On motion of Rev. J. K. Smith, seconded by Dr. Bayne, it was cordially agreed, that the thanks of the Synod be presented to the Revds. Messrs Wilson and Burns, for conducting the religious exercises at the opening of Synod. The Moderator communicated the thanks accordingly.

Printed Minutes.

An opportunity for remarks on the printed Minutes of last Synod was presented, when they were approved.

Corresponding Members.

The Revds. Messrs Burns and Wilson, the Scottish Delegates, the Rev. Mr. McTavish of the Canada Presbyterian Church, and the Rev. Mr. Morton Missionary from Trinidad, were invited to sit as corresponding members and take their places beside the Moderator. Mr. Morton placed upon the table of Synod copies of the Urdu and Hindustani versions of the New Testament, and other books used in worship in connection with the Trinidad Mission.

Report of Aud. Com.

The Rev. Mr. Walker read the Report of the Auditing Committee, to the effect that they had examined all the accounts of the Church, and that they had found them correct. The following abstract of the Synodical accounts was read and laid upon the table :—

ABSTRACT OF SYNOD'S ACCOUNTS, 1st JUNE, 1874.

FOREIGN MISSION.

Received year ending 1st June, 1874 :	
Church collections	$5105 30
Drawn from Crerar Fund	1219 19
	$6324 49
Expenditure.	
Year ending 1st June, 1874	$6839 62
Expenditure over receipts	$ 515 13
Balance due Treasurer, 1st June, 1873	617 27
Balance due Treasurer, 1st June, 1874	$1132 40

HOME MISSION.

Received, year ending 1st June, 1874	2576 19
Expenditure " " " " "	2791 73
Expenditure over receipts	$ 215 54
Balance in Treasurer's hand, 2nd June, 1873	542 73
Balance in Fund, 1st June, 1874	$ 327 19

MISSION SHIP AND TRINIDAD SCHOOLS.

Received, year ending 1st June, 1874	$2185 74
Expenditure " " " " "	2156 67
Receipts over expenditure	$ 29 07
Balance in Treasurer's hand, 1st June, 1873	497 67
Balance in Treasurer's hand, 1st June, 1874	$ 526 74

SYNOD FUND.

Received, year ending 1st June, 1874	$1083 80
Expenditure " " " " "	829 72
Receipts over expenditure	254 08
Balance due Treasurer, 2nd June, 1873	250 11
Balance in Treasurer's hand 1st June, 1874	$ 3 97

SUPPLEMENTING FUND.

Received, year ending 1st June, 1874:	
Church collections	$2358 10
Grant Free Church of Scotland	486 67
" Irish Presbyterian Church	243 33
	$3088 10
Expenditure, year ending 1st June, 1874	3313 30
Expenditure over receipts	$ 225 20
Balance in Treasurer's hands, 2nd June, 1873	846 21
Balance in Treasurer's honds, 1st June, 1874	$621 01

ACADIA MISSION.

Received, year ending 1st June, 1874	$ 745 05
Expenditure, " " " " "	558 50
Receipts over expenditure	$ 186 55
Balance due Treasurer, 2nd June, 1873	98 84
Balance in Treasurer's hands, 1st June, 1874	$ 87 71

MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Received, year ending 1st June 1874:	
Church collections	2748 98
Interest and dividends	2926 53
Drawn from Investment Fund	806 87
	$5582 38
Expenditure, year ending 1st June, 1874	4239 22
Receipts over expenditure	$1343 16
Balance due Treasurer 2nd June, 1873	806 87
Balance in Treasurer's hands, 1st June, 1874	$ 536 29

PROFESSORIAL FUND.

Receipts, dividends, and interest of invested funds, year ending 1st June, 1874	$2084 00
Expenditure, year ending 1st June, 1874	2075 00
Transferred to Education Fund	$ 9 00

CRERAR MISSION FUND.

Receipts, dividends and interest, year ending 1st June, 1874	$ 428 91
Expenditure year ending 1st June, 1874, transferred to Foreign Mission acc't.	1219 19
Expenditure over receipts	$ 790 28
Balance on hand 2nd June, 1873	790 28

FOREIGN MISSION BURSARY.

Receipts, year ending 1st June, 1874	$ 220 00
Expenditure, year ending 1st June, 1874	140 00
Receipts over expenditure	$ 80 00
Balance in hand 2nd June, 1873	70 00
Balance in hand 1st June, 1874	150 00

ITALIAN MISSION.

Balance in hand 2nd June, 1873	$ 10 00
Remitted to Rev. Matteo Prochet, to be expended in Italy	10 00

JEWISH MISSION.

Balance in hand 2nd June, 1873	$ 62 66
Received, year ending 1st June, 1874	8 87
Balance in Treasurer's hand, year ending 1st June, 1874	$ 71 53

GRAND FALLS.

Received, year ending 1st June, 1874	$ 166 36
Collected by Mr. Paradis	1214 63
	$1380 99
Expended by Mr. Paradis, 1874	$1214 63
Balance in Treasurer's hand 1st June, 1874	$ 166 36

Comparative Statement of Receipts for 1873—74.

	Receipts.	*Increase.*	*Decrease.*
Foreign Mission, 1873	$7433 99		
do. 1874	5105 30		
			$2328 69
Home Mission, 1873	$2507 25		
do. 1874	2576 19		
		$ 68 94	
Mission Ship and Trinidad Schools, 1873	$2288 12		
do. do. 1874	2185 74		
			102 38
Synod Fund, 1873	$1055 82		
do. 1873	1083 80		
		27 98	
Supplementary Fund, 1873	3188 58		
do. 1874	3088 10		
			100 48
Acadia Mission, 1873	$ 746 22		
do. 1874	745 05		
			1 17
Ministerial Education, 1873	$3375 75		
do. 1874	4775 51		
		1399 76	
Professorial Fund, 1873	$2194 05		
do. 1874	2084 00		
			110 05
Crerar Mission Fund, 1873	$ 494 40		
do 1874	428 91		
			65 49
Foreign Mission Bursary, 1873	$ 280 00		
do. 1874	220 00		
			60 00
Jewish Mission, 1873	$ 4 40		
do. 1874	8 87		
		4 47	
Grand Falls, 1873	$ 77 50		
do. 1874	1380 99		
		1303 49	
Italian Mission, 1873	$ 10 00		
do. 1874	0 00		
			10 00
		$2804 64	$2778 26

Total Receipts, 1873	$23656 08	
do. 1874	23682 46	
Increase in 1874	$ 26 38	

Examined and found correct,

GEORGE WALKER,
J. W. CARMICAEL,
G. W. UNDERWOOD. } *Auditors.*

The Report was received, the diligence of the Committee approved, and the thanks of Synod tendered to them. Mr. Walker was instructed to convey this motion to the other members of this Committee who have devoted so much time and attention to the work. The Committee suggested that the Professorial and Education Funds might be advantageously united in the current accounts. On motion it was resolved that these two funds be united in the current accounts, but kept separate in the investments, the fund to be known as the Ministerial Education Fund.

Combining of Professorial and Education Funds.

Prof. McKnight read the Report of the Committee on Statistics, from which it appeared that though there are still a good many blanks from Sessions not reporting, there is an improvement in this respect upon past years.

Report of com. on Statistics.

The Report was received, and the thanks of the Synod tendered to the Committee.

Rev. J. K. Smith moved,

"That the Synod direct the attention of Presbyteries to the law of the Church on this matter, as set forth in Chap. II. Sect. II. sub-section 17 of the Rules and Forms of Procedure, with instructions to report annually to Synod their diligence in the matter."

Mot'n adopted

Rev. G. Christie moved,

"That the Synod simply call the attention of Presbyteries to the law of the Church on this matter."

The question being taken, Mr. Smith's resolution was preferred.

It was agreed that the Report of the Committee to watch over Public Education, be the order of business at the commencement of the afternoon Sederunt. Closed with the Benediction.

THIRD SEDERUNT.

Same Day and Place, 3 o'clock P. M.

The Synod met and was constituted by the Moderator. The Minutes of the previous Sederunt were read and sustained.

The Moderator appointed the following special Committees:

Committees on Minutes of Presbyteries

To examine the Minutes of the Presbyteries of St. John and Miramichi—Rev. Messrs. P. M. Morrison and Wm. Millen, ministers, and Mr. J. F. Blanchard, elder.

To examine the Minutes of the Presbyteries of Cape Breton, Victoria and Richmond, and P. E. Island—Rev. Messrs. J. Salmon and John M. Allan, ministers, and Mr. P. P. Archibald, elder.

To examine the Minutes of the Presbyteries of Halifax, Tatamagouche and Lunenburgh and Yarmouth—Rev. Messrs. Kenneth McKenzie and J. D. Murray, ministers, and H. B. Webster, Esq., elder.

To examine the Minutes of the Presbyteries of Truro and Pictou—Revds Messrs. M. G. Henry and J. Meek, ministers, and Mr. Daniel McDonald, elder.

On Boards. *To examine the Minutes of the Boards of Home and Foreign Missions, and of the Superintendence of Theological Hall*—Rev. Messrs. A. Stuart, L. G. McNeill, ministers, and Mr. James Stalker, elder.

On Travelling Expenses. *On Travelling Expenses of Members of Synod*—Rev. Messrs. R. Cumming's, J. C. Burgess, ministers, and Mr. N. Hilton, elder.

On Devotion. *Committee on Devotion*—Rev. Messrs. Pitblado, E. A. McCurdy, M. G. Henry, A. Stirling, A. B. Dickie, ministers, and G. A. Blanchard, W. H. Brown, Esqrs., and Dr. Gordon, elders—the first named in each case to be Convener.

Report of com. on Public Education. It was agreed that the Report of the Committee on Public Education, and the Reference of the Pictou Presbytery anent the Antigonish riot, be taken up together. Rev. Mr. Pitblado read the Report of the Committee on Public Education, which was received, and laid upon the table.

Reference of Pictou P'by. on Antigonish Riot. The Rev. E. A. McCurdy, read the reference from the Pictou Presbytery, which on motion was sustained. It was agreed that as the above report and reference could not be satisfactorily discussed together, the report of the Committee to watch over Public Education be first taken up. After discussion, the report with slight amendment, was adopted.

Report on Pub. Education adopted.

Proceeded to consider the recommendations appended to the Report.

1st Recommendation. 1. "That the office bearers of this Church, be directed to take such measures, as they may deem proper, for bringing the state of the educational question before the people under their charge at as early a day as possible."

On motion this recommendation was unanimously adopted.

2d Recommendation. 2. "That the people under our jurisdiction be recommended, to withdraw their countenance and support, from our public men, no matter to what party they belong, who will not decide to pledge themselves, to use their utmost endeavours, to secure an impartial administration of our unsectarian School Law, and treat our educational interests, as of infinitely more value than the existence or triumph of any party."

It was moved by Rev. D. B. Blair, and seconded by Rev. L. G. McNeill, that this resolution be adopted.

It was moved in amendment by the Rev. J. K. Smith, and seconded by Dr. Waters,

Amendment to 2d resolution. "That the Synod call upon the people of our Church, to guard with the greatest vigilance, the interests of our Educational system, and to use rigorously, all legitimate means, to secure in every place its efficient and practical operation. The Synod further expresses the opinion, that those public men, who are not prepared to carry out, in their integrity, the provisions of the law, should not receive the support and countenance of our people."

While these resolutions were being discussed, the hour of adjournment arrived.

The Clerk of Bills reported the order of business for to-morrow, which was adopted. Closed with the Benediction.

FOURTH SEDERUNT.

Same Day and Place, half-past seven o'clock, P. M.

The Synod met and was constituted by the Moderator, when a short time was spent in devotional exercises. The minutes of last sederunt were read and confirmed.

Commissions in favour of the Rev. James Chalmers Burns, M. A., minister at Kirkliston, and the Rev. James Hood Wilson, M. A., of the Barclay Church, Edinburgh, from the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland, and the Colonial Committee of the same Church, having been read, these brethren were introduced to the Synod, and cordially welcomed. Scottish Deputies.

Mr. Wilson first addressed the Synod, dwelling particularly upon the recent remarkable revival in Scotland, and Home Mission work in Edinburgh. At the close of his address, Mr. Wilson stated, that they were accompanied by two young students,—Messrs. Barbour and Gordon, who, with the Synod's permission, would address the Court. Having been heartily received, they addressed the Synod, specially referring to the influence of the revival movement upon young men.

After engaging in devotional exercises, the Synod was addressed by Mr. Burns, who conveyed the fraternal greetings of the Assembly and the deep interest which the Colonial Committee takes in this Church. Mr. Burns laid upon the table of Synod, a copy of interesting documents connected with the Free Church. Several members of Synod having spoken in response, the following resolution moved by the Rev. J. K. Smith, and seconded by Mr. Falconer, was heartily accepted.

"The Synod desires to express its great pleasure at the presence among us of the honoured and beloved representatives of the Free Church of Scotland—a Church honoured of God in bearing a noble testimony for the truth of Christ, rejoices in hearing from them of the progress of that Church, and especially their deeply interesting statements, of the great work of grace in Scotland; and prays that the Holy Spirit may be still more copiously poured out on that land. The Synod desires the brethren to convey to the Free Church of Scotland, and especially to the Colonial Committee of that Church, its gratitude for their liberality and many courtesies towards this Church. The Synod invokes the Divine protection on the homeward journey of the honoured delegates, already endeared to us by their excellent addresses and fervent brotherly spirit; praying that they may be long spared and still more abundantly blessed in the service of our Lord Jesus Christ." Resolution.

The Moderator in a few appropriate remarks tendered the Resolution to the Deputies.

The thanks of the Synod were also presented to Messrs. Barbour and Gordon. After prayer, led by the Rev. Mr. McTavish, the Synod closed with the Benediction.

FIFTH SEDERUNT.

Same Place, 2nd July, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Synod met and was constituted by the Moderator. The minutes of last Sederunt were read and approved.

At the request of the Presbytery of Cape Breton, for the appointment of assessors to aid them, the Revds. Dr. Bayne and J. B. Logan, were chosen for that purpose. Assessors appointed.

Mr. Smith's motion adopted.

Resumed the consideration of the recommendations of the Committee on Public Education, when after explanations given, the second recommendation of the Committee was, by the consent of the Synod, withdrawn, and Mr. Smith's motion adopted unanimously.

The next recommendation of the Committee, was accepted unanimously, viz :—

3d Recommendation.

1. "That this Synod decidedly protest, against any attempt of the members of the House of Commons, or others, to deprive the Local Parliaments, of their constitutional rights, by forcing upon these Lower Provinces, a system of education, repugnant to a vast majority of the people."

4th Recommendation.

4. "That this Synod record their emphatic disapproval of the past and present administration of the School Law in Nova Scotia, in allowing its provisions to be openly ignored or evaded, in favour of a particular denomination, to the great detriment of the best interests of education, throughout the Provinces."

It was moved and seconded that this recommendation be adopted.

It was moved in amendment by Rev. J. McKinnon, and seconded by Rev. G. Patterson ;—

Amendment.

"That the Synod record its strong disapproval of the administration of the School Law in Nova Scotia, in as far as its provisions have been allowed to be evaded in the interests of any particular denomination."

On a division being taken, 17 voted for the amendment, and 122 for the motion. On being called for, the motion, as now adopted, was then put to the Court, for or against, when 150 voted in favour of the resolution, and 2 against it.

Expenses.

It was agreed, that the expenses, incurred by the Committee, in connection with their work, be paid from the Synod Fund.

Dr. Jeffers.

Dr. Jeffers, Delegate from the United Presbyterian Church of North America, being present was invited to sit as a corresponding member, and take his place beside the Moderator.

It was moved by Dr. McCulloch, and seconded by Rev. J. Forrest, and passed unanimously :—

Motion against Separate Schools.

"That this S[illegible]od [illegible]eclare its firm attachment to the principle of Free non-sectarian education, and [illegible] strongly protest against any effort to alter the existing law, for the purpose of [illegible]ng on these Provinces the Separate School system."

Reference of Pictou Pby.

Entered upon a consideration of the reference of the Pictou Presbytery, regarding the Antigonish riot, when it was agreed, on the motion of Dr. Waters, to appoint a committee to consider the reference, and present a finding for the consideration of the Synod at the afternoon Sederunt. The following were chosen as the Committee, viz :—Revds. Dr. Waters, Dr. McCulloch, A Stuart, and L. G. McNeill, ministers. Messrs. J. F. Blanchard, N. Hilton, and Hon. K. Henderson, elders. Adjourned with the Benediction.

Committee.

SIXTH SEDERUNT.

Same Day and Place 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Synod met and was constituted by the Moderator. The Minutes of last Sederunt were read and sustained.

Rev. C. B. Pitblado reported from the Committee on Devotion, that at the request of a similar Committee of the Synod in connection with the Church of Scotland, and in concert with them, they had agreed to recommend a united Communion of the members of both Synods, to be celebrated in St. Matthew's Church, on Sabbath evening, at 8½ o'clock,

United Communion.

P.M. The recommendation was accepted, and the subject remitted to the Committee to make the necessary arrangements.

The Revds. Messrs. Murdoch Stewart, Geo. Christie, Dr. Bayne and John Stewart, were appointed a Committee to prepare memorial notices of the fathers who have been called away by death during the past year, Dr. Bayne to be Convener. Committee on Memorial Notices.

The Report of the Committee on Systematic Beneficence was submitted by the Rev. E. A. McCurdy. The Report set forth the encouraging fact, that the Church was making gratifying progress in the adoption of the practice of weekly contribution for the support of religious ordinances. Report of com. on Sys. Beneficence.

The Report was received, adopted and the thanks of the Synod tendered to the Committee. Report adopt'd

The Committee asked, "that the Synod recommend the Presbyteries without delay, to bring the subject before all their congregations, by circular or deputation, and to urge the adoption of the system, as soon as practicable, and also that the Clerks of Presbyteries be requested to obtain information respecting the progress of the movement, and to transmit the same to the Committee, at least one month before the next meeting of Synod." The recommendation was adopted. Recommendation.

Read the application of the Halifax Presbytery, asking permission to receive the Rev. James Quinn, of the Congregational body, as a minister of this Church, and also Mr. Quinn's own application. This matter was referred to a committee consisting of the Rev. Messrs. Geo. Patterson, W. Duff, P. Morrison, A. L. Wyllie, and J. Forrest, ministers, and R. McLean, elder, Mr. Duff convener, to examine papers and report to Synod. Rev. Mr. Quinn's application.

The Rev. J. McKinnon moved the following resolution, as postponed from last year:— Rev. J. McKinnon's motion on constituent members of Ch'rch Courts.

"That the Synod shall continue to those ministers, whom it has separated from their congregations, to be otherwise employed in its service, and to those who, in consequence of age and infirmity, have demitted their charges, their seats as constituent members in the Higher Church Courts."

Rev. J. McLean seconded the motion.

It was moved in amendment by the Rev. T. Sedgwick, and seconded by Rev. Mr. Christie:— Amendment.

"That the Synod agree to abide by the settled order of the Church, that ministers of congregations, representative elders, and Professors of Theology, are constituent members of Church Courts; and as the motion refers to the case of aged and infirm ministers, direct Presbyteries in dealing with the cases of such ministers, to use their best endeavours to maintain the connection between them and their congregation unbroken till dissolved by death, thus preserving their status; and as to the case of ministers separated from their charge, and designated by Synod to some particular service, agree to deal with each case of this kind as it arises."

On a division 5 voted for the motion and 85 for the amendment. The amendment as just adopted was then put, for or against, when 78 voted in favor and 13 against it. Amendment adopted.

Rev. Mr. Duff reported from the committee to consider the application of Mr. Quinn, that they had examined his testimonials and had found them satisfactory, and recommend the Synod to receive Mr. Quinn as a minister of this Church. The report was received and the Halifax Presbytery instructed to retire and receive him accordingly. Report of com. on Mr. Quinn's application.

Report of com. on Antigonish Riot.

The Rev. Dr. Waters reported from the Committee to consider the reference of the Pictou Presbytery, regarding the Antigonish riot. The Report was received and the resolutions submitted taken up *seriatim*. The following were adopted unanimously:

1st. 1. "That a violent riot took place in which Messrs. Chiniquy and Goodfellow suffered severe personal injury, their lives were endangered, and the right of free speech and worship violated."

2d. 2. "That in the matter of the riot there has been a manifest failure of justice; (1) to punish the persons who were engaged in the violent assault upon Messrs. Chiniquy and Goodfellow; (2) that in consequence of the dilatoriness of the authorities in prosecuting the case, and notwithstanding the evidence taken before their own commission, the Government has thus far not dealt in an adequate manner with those magistrates who failed in using their official position to protect Messrs. Chiniquy and Goodfellow from violence. Further, the Synod deeply regrets that the Government in bringing down the papers to the legislature in connection with the riot, have omitted some important documents, thereby presenting an imperfect report."

3d. 3. "The Synod cordially approves of the conduct of the Presbytery of Pictou in conducting the case, and of their efforts to obtain from the Provincial Government and civil authorities that justice and protection which are the inalienable right of every British subject."

4th. 4. "The Synod cannot but view with great alarm, this failure to vindicate the liberty of free speech and to punish those who were guilty of a gross violation of law."

5th. 5. "The Synod remits the matter to the Presbytery of Pictou to be dealt with as in their judgment may seem best."

6th. 6. "The Synod desires to express its sympathy with Messrs. Goodfellow, Chiniquy, Burnside, and the Antigonish congregation, in the painful circumstances in which they were placed."

Report adopt'd

The Report was then adopted as a whole.

Motion about expense.

The Committee recommend that as the Pictou Presbytery have already paid one half the amount of the necessary expense in connection with this case, that the Synod assume the balance. The recommendation was adopted, and it was agreed to appoint a committee to apportion the amount to the several Presbyteries, the committee to consist of Revds. James McLean, T. Sedgwick and E. Miller.

Thanks to com. of Pictou Pby

The thanks of the Synod were tendered to the Committee of Pictou Presbytery, and particularly to the Convener, for the manner in which they conducted the whole case. Closed with the Benediction.

SEVENTH SEDERUNT.

Same Day and Place, 7½ o'clock, P. M.

The Synod met and was constituted by the Moderator, after which the usual time was spent in devotional exercises. The minutes of the last sederunt were read and confirmed.

Foreign Missions.

Took up the subject of Foreign Missions. The Report having been printed, and placed in the hands of the members of Synod, was held as read. The Moderator presented a brief summary of the Report, when the Rev. A. McL. Sinclair, after an address upon the general subject, moved, and the Rev. G. Christie seconded, that the Report be received and laid upon the table. The motion was adopted.

Address by Mr. Morton.

The Rev. Mr. Morton, returned missionary from Trinidad, being present, at the request of the Moderator addressed the Synod, in an interesting manner, on the character of his field of labor and the nature of the work. After prayer led by Mr. McCurdy, the Synod adjourned with the Benediction.

EIGHTH SEDERUNT.

Same Place, July 3, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Synod met and was constituted by the Moderator. The minutes of the last sederunt were read and sustained.

Dr. Topp, Delegate from the Canada Presbyterian Church, being present, was invited to correspond, and take his place beside the Moderator. Dr. Topp to correspond.

Rev. W. Stuart, Moderator of the Presbytery of St. John, stated that the congregation of Calvin Church had extended a call to Dr. McLise of New York, but that before the call was sustained, Dr. McLise resigned his charge of his congregation, with a view to his induction in Calvin Church. Being thus a minister without charge, the Presbytery applied to the Synod for leave to receive Dr. McLise, and proceed with his induction. The request of the Presbytery was granted. Call to Dr. McLise.

The Halifax Presbytery reported, that, in compliance with the instructions of Synod, they had met and received the Rev. Mr. Quinn as a minister of this Church. Mr. Quinn, being present, was welcomed by the Moderator and invited to sit as a corresponding member. Reception of Mr. Quinn.

The Committee on Devotion reported that in concert with a committee of the Synod in connection with the Church of Scotland, they agreed to recommend a united meeting of the members of both Synods for prayer and conference, to be held in St. Matthew's Church, on Saturday evening, at 7½ o'clock. United Meeting in St. Matthew's Ch.

Took up the remit of last Synod on Union, when the reports of Presbyteries were called for. From these reports it was found, that eight Presbyteries had reported in favour of Union, and none against; whereupon it was moved by Rev. Mr. Smith, and seconded by Rev. James Sinclair, and agreed to— Remit on Union.

"That this Synod rejoices in the approval of the Remit on Union by all the Presbyteries of this Church which have reported, waive further consideration of it at present, and proceed to hear the delegates appointed by the General Assembly of the Canada Presbyterian Church, to inform us of the action of that Assembly on the subject of Union." Motion.

Commissions were then read in favour of the Revds. Dr. Topp and John McTavish, instructing these brethren to lay before this Synod the changes which had been made in the Basis of Union and the accompanying resolutions, and respectfully ask its concurrence in the same. Canadian Deputation.

Extract minutes were also read from the Assembly of the Canada Presbyterian Church, and the Synod of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, in regard to the proposed change in the name of the United Body.

Dr. Topp and Mr. McTavish then addressed the Synod, and laid upon the table a copy of the Basis as amended.

On the motion of the Rev. Mr. Smith, it was agreed—

"That the Synod express its thanks to the General Assembly of the Canada Presbyterian Church, for its courtesy in sending these, its honored and revered delegates, to explain and recommend to us its action on the Union question; and also to these brethren for the admirable and judicious manner in which they have executed their commission. The Synod reciprocates the fraternal expressions of love and good will of the Canada Assembly; and desires the brethren to convey to that Church its best wishes for its spiritual progress and prosperity." Resolution.

The Moderator, in the name of the Synod, conveyed the sentiments expressed in this resolution to the Delegates.

Synod in Com. of whole.

After prayer, led by Messrs. J. Munro and J. I. Baxter, it was on motion agreed that the Synod resolve itself into a committee of the whole, to consider the Basis and accompanying resolutions, as amended, *seriatim*. Rev. George Patterson was called to the chair.

The Synod having resumed, the chairman reported progress, and asked leave to sit again at the commencement of next sederunt. Closed with the Benediction.

NINTH SEDERUNT.

Same Day and Place, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Synod met and was constituted by the Moderator. The minutes of last sederunt were read, and with slight amendment approved.

Report of com on Business.

The Committee on Business reported, recommending that, at the close of the Union proceedings, this afternoon, the Synod determine the time and place of its next meeting; and that at the evening session, Dr. Jeffers, the Delegate of the United Presbyterian Church of the United States, be heard. On motion the determination of next meeting of Synod was postponed till Monday afternoon, and it was agreed to hear Dr. Jeffers this evening, and thereafter to take up the report of the Acadian Mission Committee.

Synod in Com.

The Synod then resolved itself into a Committee of the whole House to continue the consideration of the Amended Basis and Resolutions, Rev. Geo. Patterson in the chair.

The Synod resumed, when the Committee of the whole House reported their proceedings. The report was received, and its recommendations considered seriatim.

Recommended that the following Preamble be adopted.

PREAMBLE.

Preamble.

"The Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, the Canada Presbyterian Church, the Church of the Maritime Provinces in connection with the Church of Scotland, and the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces, holding the same doctrine, government, and discipline, believing that it would be for the glory of God, and the advancement of the cause of Christ, that they should unite and thus form one Presbyterian Church in the Dominion, independent of all other Churches in its jurisdiction, and under authority to Christ alone, the Head of His Church and Head over all things to the Church, agree to unite on the following Basis, to be subscribed by the Moderator of the respective Churches in their name and on their behalf."

Passed unanimously.

BASIS.

1st Article.

1. "The Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, being the Word of God, are the only infallible rule of faith and manners."

Adopted unanimously.

2nd Article.

2. "The Westminister Confession of Faith shall form the subordinate standard of this Church; the Larger and Shorter Catechisms shall be adopted by the Church, and appointed to be used for the instruction of the people;—it being distinctly understood that nothing contained in the aforesaid Confession or Catechisms, regarding the power and duty of the Civil Magistrate, shall be held to sanction any principles or views inconsistent with full liberty of conscience in matters of religion."

Adopted unanimously.

3rd Article.

3. "The government and worship of this Church shall be in accordance with the recognized principles and practice of Presbyterian Churches, as laid down generally in

the "Form of Presbyterial Church Government," and in "The Directory for the Public Worship of God."

Adopted unanimously.

The Basis of Union as thus passed was then on motion adopted as a whole.

The following resolutions were then submitted:

RELATIONS TO OTHER CHURCHES.

1. "This Church cherishes Christian affection towards the whole Church of God, and desires to hold fraternal intercourse with it in its several Branches, as opportunity offers." 1st Resolution

2. "This Church shall, under such terms and regulations as may from time to time be agreed on, receive ministers and probationers from other Churches, and especially from Churches holding the same doctrine, government, and discipline with itself."

Passed unanimously.

MODES OF WORSHIP.

"With regard to modes of worship, the practice presently followed by congregations shall be allowed, and further action in connection therewith shall be left to the legislation of the United Church." 2d Resolution.

On motion this resolution was adopted.

The Rev. D. B. Blair and Rev. James Thomson, entered their dissent against this decision. Dissent.

The following resolutions were respectfully adopted unanimously:—

FUND FOR WIDOWS AND ORPHANS OF MINISTERS.

"Steps shall be taken, at the first meeting of the General Assembly of the United Church, for the equitable establishment and administration of an efficient Fund for the benefit of the widows and orphans of Ministers." 3rd Resolution

COLLEGIATE INSTITUTIONS.

"The aforesaid Churches shall enter into union with the Theological and Literary Institutions which they now have; and application shall be made to Parliament for such legislation as shall bring Queen's University and College, Knox College, The Presbyterian College, Montreal, Morrin College, and the Theological Hall at Halifax, into relations to the United Church, similar to those which they now hold to their respective Churches, and to preserve their corporate existence, government and functions, on terms and conditions like to those under which they now exist; but the United Church shall not be required to elect Trustees for an Arts' Department in any of the Colleges above named." 4th Resolution

LEGISLATION WITH REGARD TO RIGHTS OF PROPERTY.

"Such legislation shall be sought as shall preserve undisturbed all rights of property now belonging to congregations and corporate bodies, and, at the same time, not interfere with freedom of action on the part of congregations in the same locality desirous of uniting, or on the part of corporate bodies which may find it to be expedient to discontinue, wholly or partially, their separate existence." 5th Resolution

HOME AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY OPERATIONS.

"The United Church will heartily take up and prosecute the Home and Foreign Missionary and Benevolent operations of the several Churches, according to their respective claims; and with regard to practical work of the Church and the promotion of its Schemes, while the General Assembly shall have the supervision and control of all the work of the Church, yet the United Church shall have due regard to such arrangements, through Synods and Local Committees, as shall tend most effectually to unite in Christian love and sympathy the different sections of the Church, and at the same time to draw forth the resources and energies of the people in behalf of the work of Christ in the Dominion, and throughout the world." 6th Resolution

GOVERNMENT GRANTS TO DENOMINATIONAL COLLEGES.

"In the United Church the fullest forbearance shall be allowed as to any difference of opinion which may exist respecting the question of State grants to Educational Establishments of a Denominational character." 7th Resolution

NAME.

Name. "That the name of the united body be "The Presbyterian Church of Canada."

It was moved by Dr. Waters, and seconded by Rev. J. K. Smith, and adopted unanimously,

Motion to Remit to Presbyteries, &c. "That the Preamble, Basis of Union, and accompanying resolutions, be sent down to Presbyteries, in terms of the Barrier Act, and to Sessions and Congregations for their consideration and approval, with instructions to report their action upon the same, to an adjourned meeting of Synod."

Gratitude to God. On the motion of Dr. Waters, the Synod resolved to express its gratitude to Almighty God for the prosperous and happy issue, to which the negotiations for Union have so far been brought.

The Synod then united in prayer, led by Rev. James Allan.

Deputation. The Rev. G. M. Grant, and Messrs. McKenzie and Falconer, ruling elders, appeared as a deputation, to explain the action of the Synod of the Maritime Provinces, in connection with the Church of Scotland, and ascertain the time and place, that would be most convenient to hold the contemplated adjourned meeting of Synod.

Sederunt prolonged. The hour of adjournment having arrived, it was on motion, resolved to prolong the sederunt till the business connected with this subject be finished.

Adjourned meeting of Synod. Proceeded to select the time and place of meeting, when St. John, Pictou, and New Glasgow, were proposed. On a vote being taken, New Glasgow was preferred by a large majority. It was agreed to meet in James' Church, on the 3rd Wednesday of October, at 10 o'clock, a. m.

Deputation appointed. Dr. Bayne, Rev. J. K. Smith, and H. B. Webster, Esq., were appointed a deputation, to wait upon the Synod of the Maritime Provinces, in connection with the Church of Scotland, to acquaint them with the action of this Synod on Union, and the time and place fixed for the adjourned meeting.

Com. to secure legislation. It was agreed that the Synod appoint a Committee to secure the necessary legislation, for the protection of Congregational and other Church property, after union.

Adjourned with the Benediction.

TENTH SEDERUNT.

Same Day and Place, 7½ o'clock, P. M.

The Synod met and was constituted by the Moderator. The minutes of last sederunt were read and sustained.

Deputy from U. P. Church of N. A. A commission in favor of the Rev. Dr. Jeffers, Deputy from the United Presbyterian Church of North America having been read, Dr. Jeffers addressed the Synod, expressing the fraternal regards of the Church he represented, and giving a brief statement of its work and resources. Dr. Jeffers placed on the table a copy of the minutes of the last meeting of that Assembly.

The following resolution moved by the Rev. H. Crawford, and seconded by the Rev. Mr. McKay was heartily adopted:

"That this Synod hail with gratification the visit of this deputation from the General Assembly of the U. P. Church of N. A., and would record our thanks to the Rev. Dr. Jeffers, for the very efficient manner in which he has discharged his commission; and this Synod would heartily reciprocate these fraternal greetings, and

request their delegate, to convey to the Assembly our Christian salutations, and our desire that these interchanges of Christian affection may be continued, with the assurance that they have our sincere wishes, and earnest prayers, for their spiritual prosperity."

The Rev. W. Stuart read the Report of the Committee on Acadia Mission. After brief addresses, by the Rev. T. Cumming and Mr. Paridis, missionary, it was agreed that the Report be received and laid upon the table for future discussion. Closed with the Benediction. Report of com. on Acadian Mission.

ELEVENTH SEDERUNT.

Same Place, July 4th, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Synod met and was constituted by the Moderator. The minutes of last sederunt were read and sustained.

The Rev. R. Cumming reported from the Committee on Travelling Expenses. The report was adopted. Report of com. on Trav. Expenses.

Dr. Bayne reported, that the Deputation, to wait upon the Synod of the Maritime Provinces, in connection with the Church of Scotland, had fulfilled their duty, and had been very cordially received. Deputation to Sister Church

Took up the memorial of the Rev. D. B. Blair, and others, as to the present position of Professor McKnight, in relation to the standards of the Church. The memorial having been read, it was moved by the Rev. J. K. Smith, and seconded by Rev. T. Cumming, to Memorial regarding Prof. McKnight.

"Dismiss the memorial on the ground that the proper Court, in which to initiate any proceedure against a minister or professor, is not the Supreme Court of our Church, but the Presbytery of which he is a member." Motion.

It was moved in amendment, by Rev. R. Laird,

"That the Synod proceed to hear the memorialists." Amendment.

On a division the motion was preferred. The Revds. T. Sedgwick, D. B. Blair, H. B. McKay, James Thompson, John Munro, James Watson, Dr. McCulloch, and R. Laird, ministers, and Messrs. Isaac Flemming, and Robert J. Mitchell, elders, entered their dissent against this finding, for reasons afterwards to be given in. Dissent.

Prof. Mc.Knight claimed the right of being heard in regard to a certain statement contained in the memorial. It was moved that Professor McKnight be heard. It was moved in amendment, that the Synod proceed to the next item of business. The amendment carried. Professor McKnight claims to be heard.

Dr. McCulloch asked leave to withdraw the motion, of which he gave notice last year, on the revival of the office of Evangelist in the Church. Liberty was granted accordingly. Withdrawal of motion on Evangelists.

Took up the report of the Acadia Mission, when the following recommendations were adopted :— Acadia Mission

1. "That the Synod authorize the Presbytery of St. John, to ordain Mr. Paradis as a missionary to the French Acadians, when requested by the Acadian French Committee." 1st Recommendation.

2. "That the Synod authorize the Committee, to pay Mr. Paradis, now licensed, at the rate of $600 per annum—Mr. Paradis to pay his own board and travelling expenses, with the exception of railroad, stage, and steamboat fare, outside of his special district, when incurred in their service; and that the salary of Mr. Paradis be, for one year from the date of his ordination, at the rate of $500, to be paid by the Committee in addition to what may be contributed by the people among whom he may be appointed to labor." 2d Recommendation.

3d Recommendation.

3. "That the Committee be empowered to take such additional steps, as may be necessary, to carry on, in an efficient manner, the work of evangelizing the French Acadians, upon which the Church has already entered."

Adjourned, to meet on Monday morning, at 10 o'clock. Closed with the Benediction.

TWELFTH SEDERUNT.

Same Place, 6th July, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Synod met, and was constituted by the Moderator. After spending a short time in devotional exercises the minutes of last sederunt were read, amended and sustained.

Minutes of Com. on Supplements.

Rev. T. Sedgwick, submitted to Synod the minutes of the Committee on Supplements. Agreed that they be handed over to the Committee, appointed to examine the minutes of the Boards of the Church.

Foreign Miss'n

It was decided that the unfinished business, connected with the Foreign Mission, be taken up at 5 o'clock this afternoon.

Sum left by A. Smith, Esq., for schemes of Church.

A letter was read, stating that the heirs of the late Archibald Smith, Esq., Newport, Hants County, had in accordance with a wish expressed shorly before his death placed $200 at the disposal of the Synod, for the schemes of the Church, to be divided as they see fit. Agreed that the thanks of the Synod be tendered to the heirs of Mr. Smith, and that a Committee consisting of Dr. Bayne and Rev. G. Patterson, with the Agent of the Church, be appointed to appropriate the amount, and report to Synod.

Overtures on Ministerial support.

Took up the overtures of the Presbyteries of Truro and St. John, on ministerial support. The Rev. A. L. Wyllie was heard in behalf of the Truro Presbytery, and the Rev. R. Wilson, for the St. John Presbytery, in support of the overtures. It was moved by Dr. Bayne, and seconded by the Rev. A. C. Gillies,

Motion.

"That the Synod highly approve the general object of these overtures, but in view of the pending union of the four negotiating Churches, defer at present their further consideration :—Presbyteries, meanwhile being enjoined to use all diligence to elevate the standard of ministerial support."

It was moved by Rev. Mr. Wyllie, and seconded by Mr. Flemming, elder :—

Motion,

"That the Synod appoint a Committee to consider the matter of the two overtures, and how the Synod ought under the circumstances to proceed and report in the afternoon."

The Rev. Mr. Smith moved in amendment, and the Rev. H. B. Kay seconded,—

Amendment.

"That the Synod approves generally of the object of these overtures, expresses its belief that the minimum salary of the ministers should be $800, and a Manse; appoints a Committee to issue a circular to all Sessions giving less than that sum at present, urging them as far as possible to bring up their ministers salary to the above figure. The Synod instructs the Presbyteries to use all diligence, in dealing wisely and faithfully with the congregations under their care, in this matter, and to avail themselves, so far as they deem proper, of assistance of the Committee in visiting any of the congregations in the body. The Synod further, would strongly urge the wealthier congregations, to contribute as liberally as possible, to the Supplement Fund, so as to assist the weaker congregations in making proper provisions for their ministers support."

Mr. Wyllie's motion lost.

Rev. Mr. Wyllie's resolution being regarded as a substantive motion, was put upon its own merits, and rejected.

It was then moved by Rev. E. Ross, and seconded by Rev. N. McKay,—

"That the Synod approve the object of the overtures, and appoint a Committee to consider the whole subject, with a view of determining how far the principle of the Sustentation Fund, can be made available in this Church, and to prepare a scheme, for its application to the circumstances of this country, (if it should be thought practicable at all), and report at the adjourned meeting of Synod."

On a division, Mr. Ross' motion was preferred to the others, by a large majority. A vote was then taken upon the resolution just adopted yea or nay, when it was passed unanimously. Adjourned with the Benediction.

THIRTEENTH SEDERUNT.

Same Day and Place, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Synod met, and was constituted by the Moderator. The minutes of last sederunt were read and sustained.

The following persons were appointed a Committee, in accordance with the resolution, adopted at the close of the last sederunt, viz:—Rev. Messrs. E. Ross, A. L. Wyllie, R. Wilson, J. Bennett, Prof. McKnight, Geo. Patterson, J. K. Smith, A. Ross, T. Sedgwick, ministers, and Messrs. C. Robson, J. S. McLean, and J. F. Blanchard, elders. Com. in accordance with Mr Ross' motion

Read the petition of the Session and Congregation of Chalmers Church, asking this Synod to relinquish certain interests, which it, under certain contingencies, possesses by an act of the Legislature, in their Church property. It was moved by the Rev. Geo. Patterson, and seconded by Rev. L. G. McNeill, that the request be granted. It was moved in amendment, by Dr. Waters, and seconded by Rev. R. Wilson, that the matter be remitted to a Committee to consider the whole case, and report to the adjourned meeting of Synod. The motion was preferred by a large majority. Petition from Chalmers Ch. Motion. Amendment. Motion carried

The Report of the Committee on apportioning the necessary expenses, connected with the Antigonish riot, was submitted by the Rev. J. McLean, and adopted. Report of com. to apportion Exp. of Antigonish Riot.

It was agreed, that the appointment of the next regular meeting of Synod be postponed till the adjourned meeting in October. Appointment of regular meeting of Synod.

Rev. G. Patterson read the report of the Committee on the Aged and Infirm Minister's Fund. The report was received and adopted, and the recommendation of last year reaffirmed, viz: That those congregations which have not contributed to this scheme, do so as early as possible, authorize the Agent of the schemes of the Church, to give his aid as far as convenient direct the attention of Presbyteries to the subject, and remit the matter to the Committee to prosecute the work of collecting. Report of com. on Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund. Recommendation.

The report of the Committee on Sabbath observance, was in the absence of the Committee, read by the Assistant Clerk. The report was received, adopted, and ordered to be published. Report of com. on Sab. Observance.

The recommendations of the report were considered, and the following adopted:—

1. That the Synod approve the action of the Truro Presbytery, in relation to Railway traffic, express strongly its disapproval of the desecration of the Lord's Day, by the running of Railway trains on Sabbath morning, and remit to the Presbytery of Truro to follow up their action in relation thereto, as they may see cause.

2. That it be remitted to the Presbytery of Halifax, to make inquiry into reported instances of Railway travelling upon the Sabbath, on the Windsor and Annapolis Road, and take such action, as the circumstances may require.

3. That pastors, preachers, and Sabbath School Teachers, earnestly and frequently present the duty and privilege of the observance of the Sabbath, as exhibited, and inculcated in the Shorter Catechism.

Foreign Miss'n

Resumed the consideration of Foreign Mission Report. It was moved by the Rev. C. B. Pitblado, and seconded by the Rev. A. McL. Sinclair, and heartily adopted,—

"That this Synod hail with delight and devout thanksgiving to God, the presence of Rev. Mr. Morton, their beloved and efficient missionary to Trinidad among them, after an absence of nearly seven years from his native land, and we do most cordially welcome him to his place in the Court, and to our homes and congregations during his sojourn in this country; and we would express our heart-felt gratitude to God for his goodness in preserving his life and so far continuing his health, and that of his fellow-labourers as to enable them to prosecute their arduous labours in the Mission Field; and we would also express our sincere thankfulness to the Head of the Church for the success which has attended their efforts in spreading the Gospel among the Coolies of Trinidad, and in all their missionary work on that Island; and in view of all the encouragements which we have in looking at the past and the hopeful prospects that are opening up before us for the future, we would most cordially commend our brother, Mr. Morton, and his fellow-labourers to the sympathies and prayers of the Church, and would in a special manner desire that the various congregations which he shall visit during his stay among us, not only receive him as a beloved, honoured, and successful ambassador of the Lord Jesus Christ, but give an emphatic expression to their interest in our Foreign Mission work, which God is so largely blessing, by increasing their liberality for that scheme; and we would desire to present our most earnest prayer to God for our beloved missionary and his partner in life, that they may be long spared, and abundantly blessed in their persons, in their family, and in doing the work of the Lord in their sphere of labour."

The Rev. J. B. Logan, led the Synod in a prayer of thanksgiving to God for past success in the work of Foreign Missions.

The following recommendations of the Board were adopted:—

1st Recommendation.

1. "That the terms of Mr. Morton's return be, that his salary be reduced during his absence, from £250 to £150—expenses to and from San Fernando to Nova Scotia, to be borne by the Board, and all contributions from congregations visited by Mr. Morton, to be paid into the funds of the Board.

2d Recommendation.

2. "That the Synod approve of the action of the Board, in sanctioning the appointment of native agents, and assuming the pecuniary responsibility."

3d Recommendation.

3. "That with the concurrence of the other missionaries, the Synod sanction the removal of Mr. Morton to Petit Morne and the payment of house-rent with such expenses as this movement may render inevitable.

Pby. on Trinidad.

Entered upon a consideration of the subject, of establishing a Presbytery in Trinidad. When this subject was still under discussion the hour of adjournment arrived.

It was agreed that the conference on the state of religion this evening close at 9 o'clock, and that the report of the Committee on the Insurance of Churches be then taken up, and afterwards the motion on the removal of the Theological Classes to the Seminary Building in Truro, notice of which was given last week. Adjourned with the Benediction.

FOURTEENTH SEDERUNT.

Same Day and Place, 7½ o'clock, P. M.

The Synod met and was constituted by the Moderator. After a brief time, spent in devotional exercises, the minutes of last sederunt were read, slightly amended, and confirmed.

The Rev. James McLean read an interesting and encouraging Report from the Committee on the State of Religion. The Report was received and laid upon the table. The Synod was led in prayer by Mr. N. Hilton and Rev. A. Stirling; and brief addresses were delivered by the Rev. E. Ross on the relation of the Temperance Movement to Religion; by the Rev. N. McKay, giving a short statement of the recent religious movement in his congregation; and by Mr. Hilton on Sabbath-School work. Report of com. on State of Religion. Addresses.

Rev. G. Patterson read the Report of the Committee on the Insurance of Churches. The Report was received, and the diligence of the Committee approved. From the loss of Primitive Church, New Glasgow, the Report indicated that the Scheme was somewhat crippled, but that they had the prospect of making arrangements by which the Scheme might be continued on a satisfactory basis. It was agreed on the motion of Dr. McCulloch that the whole matter be remitted to the Committee with full powers to carry on the Scheme, under such arrangements as they may deem advisable, and that the brethren be requested to give it a hearty support. Insurance of Churches.

The Committee was enlarged to consist of Rev. G. Patterson, James W. Carmichael, G. W. Underwood, John Miller, James Yorston, R. P. Grant, Esqires. Com. enlarged.

It was agreed that the subject of the insurance of manses, and the dwellings of ministers, be remitted to the committee to obtain necessary information by circular or otherwise, and take such action as they may deem most expedient. Insurance of Manses.

The thanks of the Synod were tendered to the Committee; and especially to the Convener, for the time and labor devoted to this subject. Thanks to com.

Agreed that the order of the day for to-morrow forenoon be the Reports of the Boards of Home Mission and of Superintendence of Theological Hall, and unfinished business connected with the Foreign Missions; the latter to be taken up at 2 o'clock. Closed with the Benediction.

FIFTEENTH SEDERUNT.

Same Place, July 7, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Synod met and was constituted by the Moderator. The minutes of last sederunt were read and sustained.

The Rev. T. Sedgwick in behalf of himself and the others who dissented from the Synod's decision, relative to the memorial on the present position of Prof. McKnight, in relation to the Standards of the Church, laid upon the table the following reasons, and asked that they be engrossed in the Records: Reasons of Dissent.

We, the undersigned dissent from the decision of Synod in the matter of the memorial affecting the position of Professor McKnight with reference to the Standards, for the following reasons:

1. While admitting in the fullest manner the right of the Synod after considering a memorial or petition to dispose of it as they please, we hold emphatically that the rejection by the Synod of the memorial *in limine*, and their refusal to hear the Memorialists is a violation of the right of petition accorded by the Constitution of our Church, of approaching any court on any matter within its competency, and the said memorial brought no matter before the Synod with which it had not power to deal.—See Rules, Chap. iv., Section v., par. 7.

2. We dissent because the decision of the Synod in our view misinterprets the memorial. In no true and proper sense can it be held that the memorial brought charges against Professor McKnight, or partook of the nature of a libel.

3. We dissent because even were it true that the memorial contains charges against the Professor, or was of the nature of a libel, which we deny, we affirm that the Synod's decision which lays down that each charge must be prosecuted before a Presbytery cannot be maintained. (1). It is opposed to the recognized practice of the Presbyterian Churches of Scotland, which proceeds on the just principle that a Professor of Theology holds a relation to the Supreme Court which an ordinary minister does not. And hence the Supreme Court not only has the power (as it has in all cases), but is required in the interests of truth and right, in some, if not in all cases, to deal *itself* with all such charges against a Professor ; and we confirm this view by citing the case of Professor Brown libelled before the United Secession Synod in 1845. And (2) the Synod's decision is not confirmed by anything in our own rules, they dealing only with the case of an ordinary minister.

4. We dissent because the Synod being the guardian of the purity of teaching in the Divinity Hall ; we hold that in a case like this, where a Professor of Divinity has admittedly avowed principles at variance with the Standards of the Church. Principles which the Synod itself has condemned, and which the memorialists declare they were prepared to maintain, had never been promulgated in any Presbyterian Church, it was the bounden duty of the Synod itself to have dealt with the matter and not have relegated it to any inferior court or individual. And this duty the memorial called upon the Synod to discharge.

5. We dissent because in disposing of the memorial as a whole in the manner they did, the Synod in our view have relegated to the inferior courts a duty which by the Constitution of the Church, that Court cannot do. For (1) the Presbytery of Halifax is implicated itself in the matter brought up by the memorial, (See Rules, Chap. vii., Sec. iii., par. 11,) and can in no case judge its own conduct. And (2) the Presbytery of Halifax cannot judicially interpret the meaning and effect of the resolution of Synod, to which the memorial refers, whether it referred to the discipline of the Church or the teaching of the Hall ; and (3) being incompetent to judge of these two points it cannot judge the third point brought up by the Memorialists, it being in their judgment impossible fairly to view it apart from the rest.

6. We dissent because it has never been held that when a minister or member of the Church avows to a court having jurisdiction over him, principles at variance with its standards, it is necessary to proceed in regular form by libel. And in such a case as this when Professor McKnight intimated his change of views to the Supreme Court, according to the 11th question of the formula for the ordination of ministers, the ordinary steps of procedure were not necessary. And morover the said question recognizes the Supreme Court as the proper court to decide.

7. We dissent because in refusing to consider the memorial, the Synod, in our judgment, not only did injury to the memorialists themselves, but also to the important interests involved in the matters to which the Memorial referred, and which we fear cannot but suffer loss and damage by the cause which the Synod in its wisdom saw fit to adopt. [Signed,]

THOS. SEDGWICK,
D. B. BLAIR,
W. MCCULLOCH, D. D.,
JAS. THOMPSON,
H. B. MACKAY,
JOHN MUNRO,
JAMES WATSON,
ROBERT LAIRD,
ISAAC FEEMMING,
R. J. MITCHELL,

Com. to prepare Replies.

The Revds. J. K. Smith, J. Forrest, Dr. Waters, and James Sinclair were appointed a Committee, to prepare answers to these reasons.

Home Missions.

Entered upon the order of the day, when the Home Mission report being printed, and in the hands of the members of Synod, was held as read. It was moved by the Rev. Mr. Morrison, and seconded by Rev. Mr. Gray, and agreed to, that the report be received and laid upon the table for discussion.

On motion of Rev. A. McL. Sinclair, it was agreed :— Motion anent Catechists.

"That the Synod call the attention of the Presbyteries in Cape Breton, to the sums annually paid to Catechists, in congregations having settled pastors, with the view of taking measures to relieve, in all cases in which it shall be posssible, the Home Mission Fund, of this expenditure."

The state of the Colony of New Kincardine, having being discussed, it was agreed to refer the matter entirely to the Presbytery of St. John, to be dealt with in as generous a manner as possible, and that the Home Mission Board be instructed to deal liberally with this promising field. New Kincardine.

The Rev. Mr. McCunn, of the Synod of the Maritime Provinces being present, was invited to correspond. Mr. MacCunn invited to correspond.

The Rev. J. D. McGilvray gave notice of a motion, to be submitted at a future sederunt.

It was agreed that the Synod Treasurer be authorized in the meantime, to pay the amounts apportioned to the several Presbyteries, to meet the expenses connected with the Antigonish riot, and that the Clerk notify the Moderators of the Presbyteries of the amounts required to be paid by them, and instruct them to remit the same to Treasurer, as speedily as possible. Treas. to pay amt. of Antigonish Riot, in meantime.

The report of the Committee of Superintendence of Theological Hall, was called for, and being printed, and in the hands of the members of the Court, was regarded as read. On the motion of the Rev. J. K. Smith, seconded by the Rev. A. Carr, the report was received and adopted. Report of com. of Theo. Hall.

The Rev. J. K. Smith then moved, and the Rev. Mr. Frame seconded,

"That the Sessions of the Church be enjoined, to give the people an opportunity of contributing to the Education Fund, and urge them to faithfulness and liberality in the matter, and that a member in each Presbytery be appointed, with special instructions to watch over the interests of this Fund."

While this resolution was being discussed, the hour fixed for resuming the unfinished business, connected with the Foreign Mission arrived.

Resumed the consideration of the formation of a Presbytery on Trinidad, when it was moved by the Rev. Geo. Patterson, seconded by Rev. N. McKay, and unanimously adopted :— Trinidad Pby.

"That the Synod having at its meeting in 1868, approved of Mr. Morton's connecting himself with the Presbytery of Trinidad, find no occasion in the Revised Constitution of that Presbytery to reverse its former action."

The Board stated that they had carried out the instructions of last Synod, in making provision for Mrs. Geddie's support, and finding that $600 per annum was quite inadequate for her comfortable maintenance, had remitted that sum, in addition to her widow's allowance. The action of the Board was approved. Mrs. Geddie's Support.

Took up the motion of Rev. W. Duff, on the withdrawal of this Church from the New Hebrides Mission, notice of which was given last year. After discussion the motion was withdrawn. Withdrawal from N. H. Mission.

Congregations were instructed to make a collection, to defray the travelling expenses of members, and other necessary expenses, connected with the adjourned meeting of Synod. Collection for Oct. meeting of Synod.

Rev. G. M. Grant addressed the Synod, intimating that a Resolution had passed the Synod of the Maritime Provinces, in connection with the Church of Scotland, to the effect that they were prepared to co-operate with this Synod on the question of Theological Education, by the appointment of a Professor, and asking information upon the following points. Proposal of the Synod of M. Provinces to appoint a Professor.

1. Whether this Synod is prepared to accept their co-operation, and
2. If so, what department of the work would be allotted to their Professor.

Mr. Grant was heartily received, and on resuming the consideration of the matter of Theological Education, it was on the motion of Rev. J. K. Smith, unanimously resolved, cordially to accept the offer of co-operation, and it was remitted to the Board of Superintendence, to confer with the Committee of the Sister Synod, regarding the branches, to be allotted to the additional Professor, and any other matters requiring attention.

The hour of adjournment having arrived the Synod closed with the Benediction.

SIXTEENTH SEDERUNT.

Same Day and Place, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Synod met and was constituted by the Moderator. The Minutes of last Sederunt were read and sustained.

Apportionm'nt of amt. left by A. Smith.

The report of the Committee, to apportion the amount placed in the hands of Synod by the heirs of Archibald Smith, Esq., was read and adopted.

Report of com. on Standing Com.

The report of the Committee on Standing Committees was read and adopted.

Resumed the consideration of the business connected with the Theological Hall; when Dr. McCulloch reported that the Board of Superintendence had met, in accordance with the instructions given at the close of last Sederunt, and in connection with the Committee of the other Church, had agreed to recommend, that the Chair of Church History and Apologetics be assigned to the Professor who may be appointed. The recommendation was adopted, and the Clerk instructed to inform the Committee of the other Synod of this action.

Chair for proposed Professor.

Mr. Smith's motion adopted.

Took up the motion of Rev. Mr. Smith, as tabled at the previous Sederunt, when after discussion, it was unanimously adopted.

Increase of professor's salaries

It was moved by Rev. Mr. Sinclair and seconded by Rev. John McKinnon, and agreed to:

"That whilst the funds of the Synod will not permit the raising of the Salaries of the Professors to the sum mentioned last year, and whilst still desirous of reaching that amount, the Synod fixed the Salaries of the Professors at $1500 for the present."

Payment of salaries.

It was remitted to the Board of Superintendence to make necessary arrangements, by which all the Professors might be placed on an equality as to the time of the payment of their salaries.

Relation of Dal. Col. to Synod after Union.

On the motion of the Rev. Mr. Patterson, it was agreed:

"That it be referred to the Board of Superintendence to consider the present relations of this Synod to Dalhousie College, and what arrangements may be necessary, in view of the projected Union, in regard to the support of our Professors, and the fulfilment of our engagements with the the Governors of that Institution, and to report thereon at the adjourned meeting of Synod."

Motion anent Dal. College.

It was moved by the Rev. T. Sedgwick and seconded by Rev. Mr. Pitblado,—

"That it be an instruction to the Board of Superintendence to confer with the Governors of Dalhousie, as to the future connection of the Church with the College, and with the Government of this Province as to the matter of grants to Denominational Institutions."

The motion was adopted.

The following persons were appointed Commttees, to secure the necessary legislation for the protection of Church Property, after Union. Committees on Church Property.

For Nova Scotia.—Revs. P. G. McGregor, J. K. Smith, Dr. McCulloch, Geo. Patterson, and Mr. C. Robson.

For New Brunswick.—The Committee of the Synod of the New Brunswick in reference to Church Property.

For P. E. Island.—Revs. I. Murray, J. McLeod, and Hon. K. Henderson.

The Rev. John McKinnon, in view of the contemplated changes in the Hall, withdrew the motion, of which he gave notice last year, relating to the appointment of Pastoral Professors. Withdrawal of Motion.

In the absence of the Rev. E. Ross, Prof. Currie stated that he was authorized by Mr. Ross to request that in view of pending union he be permitted in the meantime to withdraw his motion, on the removal of the Theological Classes from Halifax to Truro. The motion was accordingly withdrawn. Withdrawal of Motion.

Entered upon a consideration of the unfinished business, connected with the Report of the Committee on the State of Religion, when the Report was adopted, and the following recommendations agreed to. State of Religion.

1. "That the Committee be authorized to issue questions to be answered through their respective Presbyteries, and that these questions be issued about the close of the present year, in order that the replies of Sessions may be forwarded to Presbyteries, with the Statistical returns." 1st Recommendation.

2. "That Presbyteries be required to consider the answers of Sessions, at the time when the Statistical Returns are under consideration, and forward them to the Convener of the Committee, with such additional information and suggestions, as they may deem necessary." 2d Recommendation.

3. "That the recommendation of former Synods requiring Presbyteries and Sessions to act in concert, in holding special religious services, be renewed." 3d Recommendation.

4. "That Clerks of Presbyteries be required to make a return to the Committee, of the manner in which the above recommendations have been carried out by Presbyteries or Sessions." 4th Recommendation.

5. "That addresses on practical subjects be given in connexion with the report next year, should the Committee think proper." 5th Recommendation.

Took up a reference from the Presbytery of St. John, in regard to certain difficulties in the congregations of Harvey and Prince William, and asking a Commission of Synod to visit these districts, and endeavour to secure an amicable settlement. The reference was sustained, and a Commissioner appointed, consisting of the Moderator and Professors McKnight and Currie. Commission to Harvey and Pince Wm.

The Report of the Educational Board was read and adopted. Report of Education Board.

Closed with the Benediction.

SEVENTEENTH SEDERUNT.

Same Day and Place, 7½ oclock, P. M.

The Synod met, and was constituted by the Moderator, when a short time was spent in prayer and praise. The Minutes of last Sederunt were read and confirmed.

In accordance with notice given, Dr. McCulloch moved that the travelling expenses of the members of Boards and Committees be defrayed from the funds of the Boards or Committees to which they belong. On a division the motion was not agreed to. Motion on trav. ex. of members of boards and com's.

Replies to Reasons of Dissent.

The Rev. Mr. Smith read the replies of the Committee, to prepare answers to the reasons of dissent from the finding of the Synod, on the memorial relating to Prof. McKnight. The reasons were adopted and ordered to be engrossed in the Records:

The Committee appointed by the Synod to prepare a reply to the reasons of dissent from the finding of the Synod in the case of the memorial anent Professor MacKnight, recommends the following for the adoption of Synod:

1. In regard to the first reason of dissent, Chap. iv., Sec. v., paragraph 6, of the Forms of Procedure, states the rule which the Synod has followed in this case in these words: "A church court, however, ought not to receive a petition with reference to any matter which ought to have been previously brought before the inferior court," and in Chap. viii., Sec. iii., Par. 1, the rule is stated that it is the special function of the Presbytery to investigate charges against ministers. In reference to the charges against a Professor, Chap. viii., Sec. iv., Par. 36, lays down the following rule: "It is the special function of the Synod's Board of Superintendence, to originate and prosecute before the Church Courts any process required against a Professor in the Theological Hall for heresy or immorality." From the employment of the word "Courts" it is obvious that the Synod was not the only court which was contemplated in that rule. It is hence evident that the court of primary jurisdiction before which a memorial or petition containing charges, or statements which are equivalent to charges against a Professor can be brought, is the Presbytery of which he is a member.

2. In reply to the second reason of dissent, it is only necessary to quote the following language of the Memorial: "But secondly, we have to call your attention to the known and admitted fact that he holds and maintains opinions which are in direct and violent opposition to it, (*i. e.*, the Confession of Faith;") and again in said memorial: "But thirdly and lastly we have to call the Synod's attention to the fact that we have reason to believe that the Professor has expressed himself on the vital question of Inspiration in a manner which leads us to fear that here too his views are not in accordance with the confession of Faith." In support of this latter statement reference is made to a letter said to be in Dr. Bayne's possession. The memorial thus evidently contains charges against Professor MacKnight

3. In reply to the third reason of dissent. Sec. 1. It is laid down in Hill's Practice of the Church Courts of the Church of Scotland, that it belongs to Presbyteries to receive and investigate charges against Ministers, Sec. iii., p. 53 of 6th edition. In the Forms of Procedure of the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland, the following rule is laid down, Chap vi., Sec. iii., Par 1: "Charges against elders or deacons are tried before the Session to which they belong, but the Presbytery is the only competent court for the trial of ministers." The book from which this is quoted gives no separate rule for the trial of professors. In Sir Henry Moncrieff's Practice of the Free Church of Scotland, Chap. v., Div. ii., Sec. 1st, it is stated that it is "the special function of the Presbytery to investigate any charge or fama against a minister or probationer within their bounds. They alone have primary jurisdiction over either." By the Act of 1861 of the Free Church anent the Constitution of the New College of Edinburgh, it is enacted as follows: "That a select committee shall be appointed by the General Assembly . . . . with authority to originate and prosecute before the Church Courts processes against any of the Professors for heresy or immorality, and to make necessary inquiries for that purpose." This is in entire harmony with the Forms of Procedure adopted by our own Church. It thus appears that according to the uniform practice of all the Churches in Scotland, the Court of primary jurisdiction for the trial of professors is not the Supreme Court, but the Presbytery.

Sec. 2. It has already been shown in our answer to the first reason of dissent that the Rules of our Church apply to the case of a professor as well as of an ordinary minister.

4. We reply to the fourth reason of dissent that the Synod as the guardian of the purity of the Church has relegated the initiation of any process against ministers or professors to the Presbytery as the Court of primary jurisdiction.

5. The fifth and sixth reasons of dissent deal with the subject matter of the memorial, and it is not necessary to give any reply thereto.

7. The best interests of the Church are conserved by adopting that mode of procedure which the Synod has laid down for the guidance of the inferior Courts in the investigation of such charges as the memorial contains.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

J. K. Smith, *Chairman of Committee.*

Read a reference from the P. E. Island Presbytery, on the deleting of an old minute of Presbytery. As the minute referred to could not be produced, it was agreed to postpone the matter, till the adjourned meeting of Synod. Reference from P. E. I. Pby.

The Rev. Geo. Patterson submitted the report of the Committee on the Widows' and Orphans' Fund. The report was received and adopted, and the name of Rev. E. A. McCurdy substituted for that of Dr. Roy, deceased. Widows' and Orphans' Fund.

Mr. Patterson read the report of the Committee on the Rules and Forms of Procedure. The report was received, and the special thanks of the Synod tendered to the Committee, and particularly to Mr. Patterson for the great labor devoted to this work now completed. Rules & Forms of Procedure. Thanks to com.

It was agreed, that the thanks of the Synod be given to Robert Sedgwick, Esq., Barrister, Halifax, for preparing the Form of Congregational Trust Deed, found in the appendix. Thanks to R. Sedgwick, Esq.

The Committee having completed their work, was discharged. Com. discharged.

The report of the Committee on Temperance, was read by the Rev. J. M. McLeod. The report was received, and its recommendations considered *seriatim*. Temperance.

The following were adopted :—

1. "That the ministers of this Church preach to their people on the subject of Temperance, on the third Sabbath of December, and on a Sabbath previous to elections, earnestly warning their flocks against the use of intoxicating drinks." 1st Recommendation.

2. "That we earnestly recommend all the members of our Church, to ponder seriously, the duty of individual abstinence, from the use of all intoxicating liquors as a beverage." 2d Recommendation.

When the third recommendation was under consideration, the hour of adjournment arrived. It was moved by Rev. T. Sedgwick, that the sederunt be prolonged till half-past ten o'clock. The motion was lost, and the Synod accordingly adjourned, with the Benediction.

EIGHTEENTH SEDERUNT.

Same Place, July 8th, 10 o'clock, A. M.

The Synod met, and was constituted by the Moderator. The minutes of last sederunt were read, and sustained.

Resumed the consideration of the report of the Committee on Temperance, when the third resolution was adopted :— Temperance.

3. "That the membership of our Church, be strongly recommended to preserve the Church of the living God from reproach, by discountenancing the use and sale of intoxicating liquors; by assisting in carrying out the provisions of the license law; by refusing to sign petitions for license to sell intoxicating drinks; and in the case of magistrates, by refusing to grant licenses, when such action is within their province, and by declining to let, or furnish houses or places for the vending of intoxicating liquors." 3d Recommendation.

It was further agreed that ministers be requested to read the above recommendations from their pulpits.

The Rev. T. Sedgwick read the report of the Committee on Supplements. The report was received, and the thanks of the Synod tendered to the Committee, and especially to the Secretary. The list of congregations recommended for supplements was adopted, with $25 increase to Baillie. Supplements.

The following recommendations of the Board were accepted :—

1st Recommendation.

1. "That the Synod approve of the action of Convener and Secretary, in granting at the rate of $100 to Buctouche, in December last, at the recommendation of Presbytery."

2d Recommendation.

2. "That the Synod authorize the Committee to pay $30 to the widow of the late Rev. James Fraser, being the amount of grant for the half year, due him at this date, had he been alive."

3d Recommendation.

3. "That the previous action of Synod be in the future strictly enforced, and that Presbyteries be required to see that it is carried out, viz :"—

(1). 'That Supplemented Congregations fulfil all obligations to their ministers, before receiving supplements.'

(2). 'That no supplement be paid, unless the congregation has made a collection for all the schemes of the Church.

4th Recommendation.

4. "That the Agent of the Church be instructed, to communicate with the Colonial Committee of the Free Church of Scotland, laying before them the necessitous condition of New Kincardine, and similar fields."

Rev. Mr. Mcdougall.

The Committee directed the attention of Synod to the commendable action of the Rev. D. McDougall, of Cow Bay, in returning to the Secretary of the Committee his order for $20, the circumstances of his congregation having so far improved that he could forego apportionment.

Psalmody.

The Report of the Psalmody Committee was read by Dr. Bayne, and adopted.

Memorial Notices.

Dr. Bayne also submitted the Report of the Committee on Memorial notices. The Report was adopted and agreed that notices be appended to the Minutes of Synod.

Sabbath-Schools.

The Report of the Committee on Sabbath Schools was submitted by the Rev. A. Simpson. The Report was adopted, and the thanks of the Synod given to the Committee.

The following recommendation was accepted :—

Recommendation.

"That the Presbyteries of the Church be enjoined to devote, at least, one Sederunt during the year, to the work of Sabbath Schools within their bounds."

Com. on Minutes of Pby's. and Boards.

The Reports of the Committee to examine the Minutes of Presbyteries, and the Boards of the Church, were read, showing that, with a few exceptions, which were pointed out, the business was regularly conducted, and the Minutes accurately recorded. Closed with the Benediction.

NINETEENTH SEDERUNT.

Same Day and Place, 3 o'clock, P. M.

The Synod met, and was constituted by the Moderator. The Minutes of last Sederunt were read and sustained.

Overture on Psalmody.

On motion, the overture of the Halifax Presbytery on Psalmody, was allowed to lie upon the table.

Examination of Theo. Students.

Called for the Report of the Committee on the Examination of Theological Students ; when Dr. Bayne explained that owing to certain circumstances the Board had not met, having failed to secure a quorum.

Board discharged.

After discussion it was agreed to discharge the Board, and follow the course prescribed in the Rules and Forms of Precedure, Chap. IX., Sec. I., for the Examination of Students.

Record.

The Report of the Record Committee was read and adopted.

Presbyterian Œcumenical Council.

Read a paper containing a proposal from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States, though its Committee, for

the holding of an Œcumenical Council of Presbyterian Churches throughout the world; to forward various objects set forth in their circular On motion of Rev. J. K. Smith, the proposal was cordially received, and a Committee consisting of the Moderator, Dr. Waters and Prof. Currie, appointed to correspond or confer with similar Committees of other Churches, in furtherance of this object.

The Rev. R. Sedgwick, Deputy to the Parent Churches, read a Report, stating that he had carried out his Commission, and had been most heartily received. The Report was accepted and the thanks of the Synod conveyed to Mr. Sedgwick. Report of Deputy.

It was agreed that the sum of $50 be paid to the stated Clerk and the same sum to the Clerk *pro tem*, and that the other ordinary expenditures be authorized. Disbursements.

On motion it was agreed, that the thanks of Synod be communicated to the people of Halifax and Dartmouth, for their hospitality in entertaining the members of Synod; to the Trustees of Poplar Grove Church for the use of their building; and to the Managers of Steamboat and Railway Lines for facilities of travel granted to the members of Synod. Thanks.

The Minutes of the present Sederunt were read and approved; after which the Moderator briefly addressed the Synod. The 122nd Psalm was then sung, prayer was offered by the Revds. Dr. Waters and R. Sedgwick, and the Synod adjourned with the Benediction, to meet in James' Church, New Glasgow, on the third Wednesday of October, 1874, at ten o'clock, a. m. Close.

ALEX. FALCONER, *Clerk pro. tem.*

HALIFAX, *July 8th, 1874.*

In Memoriam.

"Your Fathers where are they? And the Prophets do they live forever?"

REV. JOHN LOGAN MURDOCH, M. A., WINDSOR,

DIED JULY 23RD, 1873.

THE name of this departed brother is closely connected with the history of the Presbyterian Church in Nova Scotia. His labors in the Ministry extended over half a century, with results glorifying to God, and encouraging to those who are called to the work of the ministry. His field of labor was at first very extensive, including more than half of the County of Hants. Within the area which first constituted his congregation, there are now four or five congregations, all of which may be said to owe their existence, under God, to his pastoral labors. There is not room in an obituary notice for any detailed account of his labors. But the Synod feels it due to themselves and to him, to record their high sense of his services to the Church at large, as well as to his own Congregation. Mr. Murdoch was born in Truro, but while he was very young his parents removed to Pictou. Here he received the principal part of his education for the ministry under the late Dr. McCulloch, and his co-laborers. After licensure, he, along with his fellow-students, Messrs. McLean and Patterson, under the advice of their Professor, repaired to the Mother Country, where, through the powerful influence of Rev. Dr. Mitchell and others, deeply interested in the prosperity of Pictou Academy, they were introduced to the Senatus of Glasgow University, and after the usual examination, received severally the diploma of A. M., bearing date Feb. 15, 1825. On his return to Nova Scotia Mr. Murdoch was duly called, ordained and inducted into the pastoral charge of Windsor or rather Western Hants, including Newport, Kempt, Ardoise Hill and St. Croix, as well as Windsor. In Church Courts he ever proved himself a deeply interested member, and very earnestly sought to forward the outward business of the House of the Lord. To his sagacious counsels and personal influence the Church is largely indebted for the formation of the domestic mission, now known as as the Home Mission, which has done so much to enlarge and strengthen her position. In view of the physical toil, mental energy, and spiritual wrestling which ministerial and pastoral labors so abundant and various, must have entailed, we are constrained to look with devout admiration on the good hand of the Lord, which so manifestly sustained and directed him until he had well nigh reached his 74th year, and 50th of his ministry. How cheering to surviving brethren in the ministry is this new illustration of the precious promise, "Lo, I am with you alway." The Synod would express their sympathy with Mrs. Murdoch in her bereavement, and desire that she may be abundantly blessed and comforted of God.

REV. DAVID ROY, D. D., EAST RIVER, PICTOU.

DIED AUGUST 5TH, 1873.

Dr. Roy was born in Kinkell, Perthshire, Scotland, in the year 1791. At mature age he made choice of the ministry as his profession. Having completed creditably his college course, he attended the Divinity Hall in 1816, and was licensed to preach in 1820, about the time of the Union which formed the United Secession Church. He was induced to emigrate to Nova Scotia in 1830, and after a few months of highly acceptable probation, received a unanimous call from the Congregation of East River, vacant by the death of Rev. Dr. McGregor. Having accepted of the call he was ordained in 1831, and continued to labor in the same field with great zeal,, fidelity and efficiency, until within a few years of his decease. Notwithstanding the formation of new charges within and around, which of necessity diminished the numbers and resources of the parent congregation, it continued, under his fostering care, greatly to prosper. About 8 years ago the degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred on him by the College of Austin, Texas, U. S.; on the recommendation of its Principal, and with the cordial

consent of intimate friends and co-presbyters. Perceiving that his charge in its ministerial and pastoral duties was too great for his declining strength, the congregation proposed, and he very readily accepted the proposal, to obtain an assistant and successor. So forward was he in the movement that when unexpected difficulties occurred to hinder its success, he readily tendered his demission. By special enactment, however, the Synod accorded to him the privilege of a seat in the higher Courts, on the recommendation of his Presbytery, and his people continued to regard him as their senior minister, and to provide suitable maintenance. His aptitude for business early won for him the honorable post of Presbytery clerk, the duties of which he performed for many years, with singular care and much advantage to the Church, in what was then the largest Presbytery within its bounds. In Synod he was also for a long period Clerk of the Committee of Bills and Overtures, so that his familiar form and genial tones must be greatly missed by a large number of the members of this Court even as now constituted. Ere his eyes closed on the earthly ministry great joy of heart was given to him in the settlement of his successor, Rev. E. A. McCurdy, with whom he always maintained the most cordial relations. About two years before his decease, Dr. Roy had a slight paralytic stroke, from which he never fully rallied, and his gradual withdrawal from all public business was the natural precursor of final dissolution which took place August 15, 1873. His memory will be long and fondly cherished not only by his brethren in the ministry, and by members of the congregation over which he presided with great acceptance for over 40 years, but by his associates in the cause of Common School Education and Temperance, which received his efficient and unflinching support. "The righteous shall be held in everlasting remembrance."

REV. ANDREW KING, S. T. P., D.D.

DIED FEBRUARY 24TH, 1874.

Was born at Glasgow, Scotland, January 27th, 1793. Educated for the ministry, he spent the earlier years of his manhood, as was customary with Students at College and Hall, in teaching. Ordained to the ministry he was first inducted into the quiet rural parish of Torphichen, April 27, 1830. His faithful performance of pastoral duty, and the earnest tone of his pulpit services were duly appreciated by his flock, so that after nearly six years amongst them, it was to their great regret that he removed to Glasgow, on his appointment to the newly erected charge of St. Stephen, into which he was inducted February 9th, 1836. He gathered around him there, a large and attached congregation, to whose spiritual interests he devoted himself for eleven years, with much zeal and fidelity. He took an active share in all the stirring events which ushered in the Scottish disruption, and in the general and local arrangements consequent on the formation of the Free Church. Subsequently he was sent to America on deputation work, and shortly after his return to Scotland was appointed Prof. of Theology in the newly formed College at Halifax, N. S., an office this, for which he was eminently qualified by the direction and extent of his previous studies, and by the precision and force wherewith he conveyed his meaning to other minds. He entered on his professoriate in 1848, and continued in the active and full discharge of its duties for about twenty-one years. When the Union between the Presbyterian Church, N.S., and the Free Church, N. S., drew on, Mr. King took a very active and leading part in the negotiations, and contributed very materially to its happy consummation. Struggling with bad health and growing infirmities, he was reluctantly compelled to resign all active work in 1871. He returned to his native land, residing for a time in Edinburgh, thence removing to Helensburgh, where he died Feb. 24th, 1874.

This Synod, which embraces so many of the young men trained to the Holy ministry, under his wise, careful and successful tuition, will long remember with sincere affection and profound veneration the form and voice of one so universally and deservedly esteemed in the social circle, in the pulpit, in the Hall, and in Church Courts. Endowed with an intellect of *rare lucidity, quick perception*, and logical accuracy; extensively read in Theology, and Church History, the Professor was remarkable for maturity of judgment on every topic within his domain, for the tenacity with which he maintained his views, and the influence which he wielded over all with whom he came into contact. "Being dead, he yet speaketh" in the *living* ministry of the Presbyterian Church of the Lower Provinces, and will, no doubt, for generations to come, continue to project a healthful and powerful influence. May his mantle fall on the shoulders of the honoured men who now or may hereafter bear the burden of the Synod's Theological Institutions.

REV. JAMES FRASER, A. M.

DIED FEBRUARY 24TH, 1874.

The subject of this notice was born in Fodderty, Rosshire. Educated at Aberdeen, he took the degree of M. A. in 1824. He studied Theology, partly at the same University and partly under Dr. Chalmers in Edinburgh. In the year 1835 he came to Cape Breton, under the auspices of a Ladies Association in Edinburgh, which took a deep interest in the spiritual interests of the Highlanders who had emigrated to that island. After labouring, for a year, as a Missionary through the many destitute settlements, he became pastor of the congregation of Boularderie. His missionary labours and toils did not cease then. The labourers being then very few, and the people numerous and widely scattered from the Stait of Canseau and Louisburg to Cape North, the ministers sent out by the Ladies Association, such as the late Rev. Messrs. Farquharson, McLean and Mr. John Stewart, now of New Glasgow, spent a great part of their time in visiting the destitute localities outside the bounds of their respective congregations. The state of the country at that time, the almost entire want of roads and bridges, &c., &c., &c., rendered these missionary journeys most arduous and trying; and Mr. Fraser took his full share of them. An excellent constitution enabled him to endure such toils, apparently without injury, for more than 30 years. During the last few years, however, his strength began to fail rapidly. Still he continued his pastoral labours, on Sabbath and week-days among his own people, till within a few months of his death. His piety was decided and deep, but also cheerful. Whatever his trials, bodily or mental might be, and they were many, no complaint was ever heard from his lips. His gentlemanly bearing, genial disposition and loving sympathy made him a favourite with all who knew him. He has left a large united and strongly attached congregation, and while by his death, the Church is deprived of a most diligent and faithful labourer, his brethren in the ministry, in Cape Breton, mourn the departure of a brother greatly beloved, and the congregation of Boularderie feel deeply the absence from their midst of the man who had for thirty-eight years been their faithful and devoted pastor, their wise Counsellor, and their best earthly friend.

SERVANTS OF GOD, WELL DONE!!
Rest from your loved employ,
The Battle fought, the Victory won,
Enter your Master's joy.

SOLDIER'S OF CHRIST, WELL DONE!!
Praise be your blest employ,
And while eternal ages run,
Rest in the Saviour's joy.

ROLL OF SYNOD, 1874.

PRESBYTERY OF ST. JOHN.

	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	NAME OF CONGREGATION.
2	Rev. Andrew Donald.....	Wm. McFarland.....	Londonderry & Campbell Set.
5	" James Bennet.....	Walter Brown.....	St. John's Ch., St. John.
1	" Lewis Jack.....2	Thomas Murray	Springfield and English Set.
1	" William Millen.....	John E. Orr.....	Bacaber and Waweig.
2	" Robert Wilson.....	Judge Stevens.....	St. Stephen.
2	" Samuel Johnson.....	John Taylor.....	Harvey.
1	" James Gray, A.M....	James Diarmid.....	Sussex.
1	" James Salmon.....	.....	Chipman.
2	" D. Waters, L.L.D...1	Robert Milligan.....	St. David's, St. John.
1	" John D. Murray.....2	Wm. McNairn.....	Buctouche and Cocagne.
1	" William Stuart.....	D. S. Blair.....	Fredericton.
14	" John K. Bearisto....	John Robertson.....	Salt Springs.
1	" J. C. Burgess.....1	Robert Cowan.....	Carleton, St. John.
1	" J. W. Nelson.....	James Robinson.....	Bailie, &c.
	" Kenneth McKay.....	Wm. Gay.....	Richmond.
2	" Isaac S. Simpson....2	Wm. McIntyre.....	Nerepis, &c.
16	Vacant.....1	A. Stuart.....	Calvin Ch., St. John.
	"	John McLeod.....	St. James'
	"	Alex. Stromach.....	Moncton.
	"	Thos. Watt.....	New Kincardine.

PRESBYTERY OF MIRAMICHI.

	Rev. Angus McMaster....	.....	New Mills.
2	" James Law.....2	John Glendinning.....	Richibucto.
2	" James Fowler.....	.....	Bass River.
1	" Thomas Nicholson.	.....	River Charlo.
1	" T. G. Johnstone....	.....	Blackville and Derby.
1	" John M. Allan.....	Dr. John Thompson.....	Chatham.

PRESBYTERY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

	Rev. R. S. Patterson, A.M.	Robert Cairns.....	Bedeque.
2	" Alex. Campbell.....	John McKenzie.....	Strathalbyn.
1	" James Allan.....	Donald Lawson.....	Cove Head.
1	" Isaac Murray.....1	William Brown.....	Cavendish and New Glasgow.
1	" Alex. Munro.....	.....	Brown's Creek.
1	" Henry Crawford.....	John A. McLaine.....	East St. Peter's.
1	" John M. McLeod....1	Hon. K. Henderson..	Zion Church Charlottetown.
1	" Neil McKay.....1	William H. Brown.....	Summerside.
1	" Robert Laird.....1	Neil Riely.....	Princetown.
1	" Allan McLean.....	.....	Dundas.
1	" Wm. R. Frame.....	Edwin Coffin.....	Mt. Stewart & W. St. Peter's.
1	" John G. Cameron...	.....	Souris and Bay Fortune.
	" S. G. Lawson.....1	David McLure.....	Murray Harbour.
1	" S. C. Gunn.....1	Malcolm McDonald.....	West River and Brookfield.
12	" Charles Fraser.....	Archb. Ramsay.....	West Point, Campbelton, &c.
15	" Arthur F. Carr, A.M.	Alex. Matthews.....	Alberton.
1	" John Murray.....	James Morrison.....	New London.
1	" John Sutherland.....2	Donald Beaton.....	Woodville.
	.....	Roderick McLean.....	Richmond Bay.
	Vacant.....	.....	Tryon and Boughaw.

PERSBYTERY OF CAPE BRETON.

	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	NAME OF CONGREGATION.
	Rev. Hugh McLeod, D. D.		Mira and Sydney.
	" Matthew Wilson		Sydney Mines.
1	" James Ross		Grand River and Loch Lomond.
5	" Abraham McIntosh.		St. Ann's and North Shore.
5	" Alex. Farquharson	Wm. McKean	Glace Bay Mines.
1	" Donald McDougall	Angus Ferguson	Cow Bay Mines.
5	" C. E. MacLean		Leitch's Creek.
5	" David Drummond		Gabarus and Framboise.
1	" Peter Clarke		Cape North.
	Vacant		Boularderie.

PRESBYTERY OF VICTORIA AND RICHMOND.

5	Rev. Murdoch Stewart		Whycocomagh.
5	" Wm. G. Forbes		Port Hastings & River Denys.
1	" Kenneth McKenzie.		Baddeck and Forks.
4	" Adam McKay	John McLeod	Middle R. and Little Narrows.
5	" Alex. Grant 1	Wm. Dunbar	Lake Ainsley.
		R. Hill, Esq	West Bay.
		J. A. McKeen, Esq	Mabou.

PRESBYTERY OF TATAMAGOUCHE.

1	Rev. James Watson	E. Stewart	New Annan.
1	" John Munro 2	R. Mitchell	Wallace.
5	" W. S. Darragh	D. Mitchell	Goose River.
1	" H. B. McKay	Ephraim Langille	River John.
1	" Thos. Sedgwick 2	Arch. Mingo	Tatamagouche.

PRESBYTERY OF TRURO.

1	Rev. John I. Baxter. }		Onslow.
1	" J. H. Chase, A.M. } 1	J. F. Blanchard	"
1	" W. McCulloch, D. D. 1	David Smith	Truro.
1	" James Byers 1	Isaac Flemming	Clifton.
2	" Ebenezer Ross 1	Joseph Peppard	Londonderry.
1	" A. L. Wyllie 1	James Thompson	Great Village.
1	" J. McG. McKay 1	J. C. Fulton	Economy.
1	" Alex. Cameron 5	Thomas McKay	Riverside.
1	" Duncan McKinnon 1	Donald Fulton	Parrsborough.
1	" James Sinclair 1	Robert Gammel	Springside.
1	" Edward Grant 1	S. F. Creelman	Stewiacke.
1	" Edwin Smith 1	A. S. Hingley	Middle Stewiacke.
1	" J. Layton	Wm. Stewart	Coldstream.
	Vacant	Wm. Patrick	Acadia.
	"		Maccan.

PRESBYTERY OF PICTOU.

3	Rev. John Stewart		
2	" George Walker 1	Daniel McDonald	Primitive Ch., New Glasgow.
1	" James Bayne, D.D. 1	Jas. Stalker	Prince St., Pictou.
2	" A. P. Miller		French River.
1	" D. B. Blair 1	Alex. Ross	Barney's River and Blue Mt.
1	" George Patterson 1	Robert McLean	Salem Ch., Green Hill.
1	" James Thomson 1	John Miller	Central Ch., West River.
	" William Maxwell	Simon Fraser	Little Harbor & Fisher's Grant.
1	" John Lees 1	Robert Fraser	Westville.
	" George Roddick	Robert Gerrard	West River.
1	" Alex. Stirling	George Munroe	Scotsburn.
1	" John McKinnon 1	James Crocket	Hopewell.
1	Alexander Ross 2	John Logan	Knox Church, Pictou.
1	Peter Goodfellow	Nathan Pushee	Antigonish.
1	Thomas Cumm 1	Alex. Grant	Stellarton.
1	E. A. McCurdy 1	J. W. Fraser	James' Ch., New Glasgow.
1	" A. McL. Sinclair 1	Donald Fraser	Springville.
1	" J. F. Forbes 1	John Ingles	Lochaber and Union Centre.
1	" A. C. Gillies 1	John A. McDonald	Sherbrooke.

	MINISTERS.	ELDERS.	NAME OF CONGREGATION.
1	" Robert Cumming....	1 Hugh Ross.....	J. Knox's Ch., New Glasgow.
1	" William Grant.....	1 John McKay.....	Earltown.
1	" Hugh M. Scott, B.D.	1 John Thompson.....	Merigomish.
	Vacant.....	Henry Archibald.....	Glenelg, &c.

PRESBYTERY OF HALIFAX.

1	Rev. Robert Sedgwick.....	2 John Reynolds.....	Musquodoboit.
1	" P. G. MacGregor....	.....	Agent of the Church.
	" Walter Thornburn...	.....	Warwick, Bermuda.
2	" John Cameron.....	2 Donald Ferguson.....	Elmsdale and Nine Mile River.
	" Moses Harvey.....	.....	St. John's, Newfoundland.
1	" James McLean.....	5 Thomas Lynch.....	Shubenacadie & L. Stewiacke.
1	" Jas. K. Smith.....	1 Dr. Gordon.....	Fort Massey, Halifax.
	" Alex. Ross.....	.....	Harbour Grace, Nfld.
1	" Alex. Stuart.....	Donald Mosher.....	Lawrencetown, &c.
1	" Prof. McKnight.....	.....	
1	" Prof. Currie.....	.....	
1	" John Gauld.....	2 Joseph McLaren.....	Gore and Kennetcoot.
1	" Donald S. Gordon...	1 Hugh McDouall.....	Annapolis and Bridgetown.
1	" Alex. Falconer.....	1 James Austin.....	Dartmouth.
2	" J. D. McGillvray....	1 William Ingraham.....	Newport.
1	" J. A. F. Sutherland.	5 J. L. Sweet.....	St. Croix and Ellershause.
1	" C. B. Pitblado.....	1 Robert Murray.....	Chalmers' Church, Halifax.
1	" A. J. Mowitt.....	7 William Currie.....	Windsor.
1	" Allan Simpson.....	1 P. P. Archibald.....	Poplar Grove, Halifax.
1	" John Forrest.....	1 W. McD. Pearman.....	St. John's, Halifax.
1	" Joseph Hogg.....	1 H. B. Webster.....	Cornwallis, North.
1	" John B. Logan, A.M.	1 G. A. Blanchard, Esq....	Cornwallis, South.
1	" Samuel Bernard.....	A. O'Brien.....	Noel.
1	" A. B. Dickie.....	Thomas Robinson.....	Sheet Harbour.
1	" L. G. MacNeill.....	2 John Putnam.....	Maitland, &c.
1	" Jas. Rosborough.....	.....	Musquodoboit Harbour, &c.
	" K. F. Junor.....	.....	St. Andrew's, Hamilton.
	Vacant.....	1 Joseph Armstrong.....	Kempt and Walton.
	"	Wm. C. Burgess.....	Cornwallis, West.
	"	John Cook.....	Gay's River and Milford.

PRESBYTERY OF LUNENBURGH AND YARMOUTH.

6	Rev. George Christie.....	1 Nathan Hilton.....	Yarmouth.
4	" William Duff.....	James Isenhaur.....	Lunenburg.
1	" D. McMillan.....	Edward Moser.....	LaHave.
1	" Matthew G. Henry..	James Nelson.....	Clyde River, &c.
4	" Peter M. Morrison..	Andrew Gow.....	Bridgewater.
4	" Ebenezer McNab....	2 George Zwicker.....	Mahone Bay.
3	" John C. Meek.....	Samuel Richardson.....	Carleton and Chebogue.
1	" Ebenezer D. Millar..	John Bower.....	Shelburne, &c.

PROFESSORS IN THE SERVICE OF THE CHURCH.

Rev. JAMES ROSS, D. D., Principal of Dalhousie College, and Professor of Ethics and Experimental Physics.

Rev. WILLIAM LYALL, LL. D., Professor of Psychology and Metaphysics.

THEOLOGICAL PROFESSORS.

Rev. A. MCKNIGHT, Professor of Systematic Theology and Church History.

Rev. JOHN CURRIE, Professor of Hebrew and Exegesis.

FOREIGN MISSIONARIES.

In the New Hebrides—Rev. James D. Murray, Aneitum.
" " " John W. McKenzie Eraker and Pango, Fate.
" " " Joseph Annand, Irrik.

In Trinidad—Rev. John Morton, San Fernando and Iere.
" " " K. J. Grant, San Fernando.
" " " Thos. Christie, Couva.

HOME MISSIONARIES IN ACTUAL EMPLOYMENT.

Rev. Samuel McCully,
" J. P. Baikie,
" William Johnston,
" James Quinn,
" John Gillis,

Mr. A. F. Thompson,
" John Wallace,
" J. P. Bryant,
" M. McLeod.

COMMITTEES OF SYNOD.

1. *Educational Board.*—Rev. Professors Ross, Lyall and McKnight, Rev. Dr. McLeod, Rev. Messrs. J. Stewart, G. Walker, McGregor, Bayne, A. Ross, and A. Simpson; Robert Romans, Charles D. Hunter, James H. Liddel, Geo. Buist, A. Patterson and Alexander James, Esqs., Halifax; R. P. Grant and Howard Primrose, Esqs., Pictou; Adam Dickie, Esq., Maitland; J. F. Blanchard, Esq., Truro; Wm. Gammell, Esq., Bras d'Or; James Bearisto, Esq., Princetown, P. E. I.; Hon Kenneth Henderson, Charlottetown, P. E. I.; and Hugh Dunlap, Stewiacke. R. P. Grant, Esq., Chairman. Rev. P. G. McGregor, Secretary.

2. *Committee of Superintendence of Theological Hall.*—The Rev. the Professors, Drs. McCulloch, McLeod and Waters, Rev. Messrs. McGregor, J. McLean, Maxwell, J. Cameron, Blair, Watson, J. M. McLeod, Allan Simpson, Falconer, Pitblado, E. E. Ross, Forrest, and J. K. Smith; with Messrs. A. James, J. H. Liddell, and Dr. Forrest. Dr. Forrest, Chairman. Rev. P. G. McGregor, Secretary.

3. *Board of Home Missions.*—Rev. Messrs. McKnight, Pitblado, McGregor, Simpson, Forrest, McGillivray, Falconer, J. K. Smith and Dr. Waters; with Messrs. J. Barnes and R. Murray. Rev. J. Forrest, Chairman. Rev. P. G. McGregor, Secretary.

4. *Board of Foreign Missions.*—Rev. Drs. Bayne and McCulloch, Messrs. J. Stewart, Blair, Baxter, G. Patterson, Walker, A. J. Mowitt, McCurdy, Thomson, H. B. MacKay, J. McG. McKay, J. McKinnon, R. Cumming, and A. McL. Sinclair; with Messrs. J. W. Carmichael, John Miller, J. D. McGregor, and Capt. W. Fraser. Rev. J. Stewart, Chairman. Rev. P. G. McGregor, Secretary.

5. *Committee to watch over Public Education.*—Rev. Dr. McCulloch, Rev. Messrs. McKnight, McGregor, Forrest and Pitblado, with Messrs. C. Robson and R. Murray; Messrs. Bennet, W. Stuart, R. Wilson, Burgess, and Dr. Waters; Messrs. I. Murray, N. McKay, and Allan, with D. Laird. Rev. Mr. Pitblado, Convener.

Those resident in each of the Provinces to act as sub-committees within these Provinces as circumstances may require, the first named in each Province to be convener of the sub-committee.

6. *On Sabbath Schools.*—Rev. Messrs. H. B. MacKay, Wyllie, Currie, McGillivray, Simpson, and J. K. Smith; with Messrs. R. Murray, C. Robson, J. Grierson, and W. H. Waddell. Rev. A. Simpson, Convener.

7. *Temperance.*—Rev. Messrs. I. Murray, A. Munro, Crawford, Falconer, McLeod, J. Cameron, and N. McKay, and Messrs. W. Welsh and J. Grierson. Mr. McLeod, Convener.

8. *Sabbath Observance.*—Rev. Messrs. R. S. Patterson, Laird, J. Stewart, Dr. McLeod, D. S. Gordon, and J. McG. McKay, with their Presbytery Elders; and J. F. Blanchard and R. Murray. Mr. Laird, Convener.

9. *Historical Records.*—The Clerks of Presbyteries. Rev. George Patterson, Convener.

10. *Widows' Fund.*—Rev. Drs. Bayne, McCulloch and McLeod, Rev. J. Stewart, Blair, G. Patterson, Maxwell, Wyllie, T. Sedgwick, Bennett, Law, J. McKinnon, McCurdy and D. McNeil; and Messrs. Howard Primrose, George Hattie, J. S. McLean, and J. D. McGregor.

11. *Record.*—Rev. Messrs. McKnight, Forrest, Pitblado, Thompson, Mr. C. Robson, and M. H. Goudge. Mr. Robson, Convener.

12. *Bills and Overtures.*—Rev. Dr. Bayne, Rev. Messrs. A. Ross, J. McKinnon, Mowitt, A. McL. Sinclair, Thomson, I. Murray, N. McKay, J. M. McLeod, and A. Falconer; and Messrs. R. P. Grant, and G. Underwood. Dr. Bayne, Convener. Rev. N. McKay, Clerk.

13. *Auditing Committee.*—Rev. G. Walker, and Messrs. J. W. Carmichael and G. Underwood.

14. *Psalmody Committee.*—Rev. Dr. Bayne, Convener; Rev. Messrs. McKnight, J. Bennett, A. Simpson, W. Stuart, and J. Hogg; and Messrs. C. Robson, C. Primrose, and J. Hepburn.

15. *Statistical Committee.*—Rev. Prof. McKnight, S. G. McNeil, and J. Forrest; Messrs. R. Murray and James Farquhar. Prof. McKnight, Convener.

16. *Committee on Supplements.*—Rev. Drs. McCulloch McLeod, and Waters, Rev. Messrs. Blair, Christie, T. Sedgewick, A. Cameron, McGillivray, Pitblado, Thompson, A. Ross, J. McLean, A. L. Wyllie, Chase, Frame and N. McKay; with the representative Elders of North Cornwallis, Poplar Gove, Calvin, and Primitive Churches. Mr. Christie, Chairman. Mr. Sedgwick, Secretary.

17. *Committee on Acadia Mission.*—Rev. Messrs. N. McKay, I. Murray, Bennett, W. Stuart, Burgess, J. D. Murray, and Drs. McLeod, and Waters, ; with the Presbytery Elders of St. John City. Rev. W. Stuart, Convener.

18. *Committee on Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund.*—Rev. Messrs. G. Patterson, McKnight, Roddick, A Ross, H. B. McKay, I. Murray, Chase, J. McLeod, A. McL. Sinclair, and R. Cumming; Dr. Christie, G. Underwood, and Howard Primrose, Esqs. Rev. G. Patterson, Convener.

19. *Committee on the State of Religion.*—Rev. Messrs. J. McLean, James Sinclair, J. McG. McKay, Pitblado, McGillvray, Burgess, Gordon, R. S. Patterson, J. K, Smith, M. G. Henry, and Mowitt, with their Presbytery Elders. Rev. Mr. McLean, Convener.

20. *Committee on Systematic Beneficence.*—Rev. Messrs. McCurdy, A. Stuart, Henry, R. S. Patterson, Layton, R. Wilson, Mowitt, Nicholson, and Messrs. Robson, W. Anderson, D. Blackwood, Dr. Murray, and John Miller.

21. *Committee on Union with other Presbyterian Bodies.*—Revs. Dr. Bayne, Christie, Bennett, R. Sedgwick, G. Patterson, and Professor McKnight; Messrs. D. Laird, Goudge, Webster, Robson, J. S. McLean, and G. A. Blanchard.

22. *Committee on Insurance of Churches.*—Rev. G. Patterson, J. W. Carmichael, G. W. Underwood, John Miller, James Yorston and R. P. Grant, Esqs.

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REPORT OF COMMITTEE

APPOINTED TO

MATURE MEASURES FOR THE NEXT GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

This Committee (consisting of 66 Ministers and 22 Elders) met, by appointment of General Assembly, within St. Paul's Church, Montreal, on Wednesday, the 1st day of September, 1875, at noon, and was constituted with devotional services, by Dr. A. Topp, the Convener.

Forty-eight Ministers and twelve Elders were present, viz: Rev. Dr. Cook; Dr. Topp; Dr. Snodgrass; Dr. McVicar; Dr. Caven; Dr. Taylor; Dr. Jenkins; Dr. Bell; Dr. Bayne; Dr. Waters; Dr. Patterson; Dr. Cochrane; Dr. McNish; Prof. McKerras; Prof. Gregg; Prof. McLaren; Rev. Messrs. P. G. McGregor; G. M. Grant, M.A.; W. Reid. M.A.; W. Fraser; D. J. Macdonnell, B.D.; D. M. Gordon, B.D.; J. G. Robb, B.A.; J. M. King, M.A.; J. Smith; R. Campbell M.A.; W. Moore; J. Patterson; K. McLennan, M.A.; P. Wright; D. H. Fletcher; J. McCall; J. Laing, M.A.; T. Sedgwick; J. McTavish; J. K. Smith, M.A.; T. McPherson; J. Middlemiss; R. Ure; R. Torrance; J. Scott; J. Burton; A. Young; J. Hastie; J. Fowler, J. Gray, B.A., Ministers; and the Hon. J. McMurrich; Judge Stevens; Messrs. R. Bell; G. Hay; A. Gordon, M.P.; T. McCrae; J. C. Thomson; Warden King; J. L. Morris; D. Morrice; J. Sterling; J. Croil, Elders.

The Rev. P. G. McGregor, of Halifax, and the Rev. John Gray, of Orillia, were appointed Joint Clerks of the Committee.

The Committee continued in Session till the evening of Wednesday, the 8th of September, and adopted the subjoined recommendations.

Generally, each subject was first considered fully and carefully by the Committee, and then remitted to a sub-Committee to frame a deliverance. This deliverance was submitted to the Committee, maturely considered, and thereafter adopted as a whole, or with such amendments as were deemed desirable.

The Committee agreed, as in accordance with the instructions of Assembly, to print the results of their deliberations for the information of Members of Assembly and Presbyteries. Dr. Topp, Rev. W. Reid and Rev. J. Gray were appointed a Committee for this purpose.

The following are the recommendations of the Committee:—

I.—MODE OF ELECTING THE MODERATOR OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

Four plans were considered by the Committee—

1. Open nomination and vote of the General Assembly.
2. Nomination by Presbyteries.
3. Open vote of General Assembly, with the understanding that the retiring Moderator shall have the first nomination.
4. Committee of ex-Moderators, the ex-Moderators of the Supreme Courts, of the late four uniting Churches, with the present Moderator, to constitute, in the meantime, said Committee.

The *fourth* proposal was withdrawn, and the *first* was carried by a majority of votes in the following terms:

That in the opinion of this Committee, the method of electing the Moderator of the General Assembly, shall, *for the present*, be that of open nomination and vote at each successive meeting of the General Assembly.

II.—CLERKSHIP OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, PERIODICALS, AND AGENCY.

After the Report had been received by the sub-Committee on these subjects, the Committee agreed to recommend as follows:

I. CLERKSHIP OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

1. That the Rev. Wm. Reid, M.A., and the Rev. Professor J. H. Mackerras, M.A., be Joint Clerks of the General Assembly, and that the salary of each be two hundred and fifty dollars per annum, exclusive of incidental expenses.

2. That in consideration of the long and faithful services of the Rev. W. Fraser, he be appointed one of the Clerks of the General Assembly, with his former salary of one hundred and fifty dollars per annum.

II. PERIODICALS.

1. That there be but one Periodical for the whole Church, to be called "*The Presbyterian Record.*" 2. That the same be published every month in the City of Montreal, at the rate of twenty-five cents per copy per annum, when taken in quantities. 3. That James Croil, Esq., be appointed Editor, at an annual salary of six hundred dollars, and that a Committee be appointed to arrange for the publication of said periodical at the commencement of next year.

III. AGENCY.

It is recommended that the services of the Rev. Wm. Reid, M.A., and the Rev. P. G. McGregor, be retained in connection with the general work of the Church, that the salary of each be two thousand dollars per annum, and that a small Committee be appointed to define their respective duties.

At a subsequent sederunt, the following Committees on Agency and Periodicals were appointed:

I. COMMITTEE ON AGENCY.

Dr. Topp, Convener, Principal Caven, Dr. Cochrane, Professor Gregg, Professor McLaren, Messrs. D. J. Macdonnell, and D. H. Fletcher, Ministers, and the Hon. J. McMurrich, Elder.

Messrs. Thomas Sedgwick, Vice-Convener, John Campbell, and John Forrest, Ministers, and Mr. Charles Robson, Elder.

II. THE "PRESBYTERIAN RECORD."

Dr. Jenkins, Convener; Principal McVicar, Vice-Convener; Dr. Taylor, Professor Campbell, Messrs. R. Campbell, J. Scrimger, and W. M. Black, Ministers; and Professor Murray, Messrs. J. L. Morris, Warden King and W. D McLaren, Elders; with the following as corresponding members:—Principal Snodgrass, Principal Caven, Dr. Cook, Dr. Topp, Professor Mackerras, Professor Pollock, Messrs. W. Reid, W. Fraser, and P. G. McGregor, Ministers.

The same Committee was appointed to obtain full information respecting the publication of a Children's Record, and to Report to next General Assembly.

III.—PARLIAMENTARY LEGISLATION.

At the first diet of the Committee, this subject was fully considered, and after reasoning, a sub-Committee was appointed to consider whether any legislation should be sought from the Dominion Parliament, and whether also any modification of the legislation obtained from the Local Parliaments should be applied for, and to report to this Committee.

On this Report being presented, diversity of opinion was found to exist as to the expediency of incorporating the Church, and as to whether the Church, as a whole, or the General Assembly should be the incorporated body. Ultimately the question resolved itself into this, shall there be any application to the Dominion Parliament, at its next meeting, for such legislation as may be necessary? or shall the advice of counsel be simply secured as to the advantages of such legislation, and the result reported to the Committee in June next?

After reasoning, the following deliverance was agreed to by a majority of votes.

That it be referred to the same sub-Committee to obtain, under the advice of Counsel, such Legislation of the Dominion Parliament as may be deemed necessary to confirm the Acts of the several Local Legislatures under which the properties held by the uniting Churches passed to the Presbyterian Church in Canada; but that in reference to the question of incorporating the General Assembly or the Church, this question be referred to the General Assembly at its next meeting.

The Committee on Parliamentary Legislation was appointed as follows:

Principal Snodgrass, Convener; Mr. Thos. W. Taylor, Vice-Convener; Mr. J. Croil, Vice-Convener; Dr. Jenkins, Principal Caven, Professor Mackerras, Professor McLaren, Messrs. A. Young, R. Campbell, W. Reid, Ministers; and Judge Stevens, and Messrs. J. L. Morris and J. Cross, Elders.

IV. HOME MISSIONS.

This subject was carefully considered, and occupied a large portion of the time of the Committee.

The chief points of difference were the three following:

1. Shall there be a Central Committee for Home Missions?

2. Shall there be one fund for Home Mission purposes, and for supplementing the Stipends of Ministers; or shall there be two separate Funds,—one for Home Mission work and the other for Supplementing Stipends?

3. Shall the appointment of a Mission Agent be recommended?

The decision on the first point was, that there shall be a Central Committee, dividing itself into two sections, the one embracing the Maritime Provinces and the other the rest of the Church.

In regard to the second question, the Committee was nearly equally divided, —the former plan being first adopted, and ultimately the latter, by a majority, as embodied in Section IV. of the subjoined Report.

As regards the appointment of a Mission Agent, the following deliverance was passed:—

That the Committee does not see the way at present open to recommend to the General Assembly the appointment of a Mission Secretary.

The following is the scheme for carrying on the work of Home Missions, and of Supplementing Stipends, which the Committee have resolved to recommend to the General Assembly:

I. That the Assembly shall appoint annually a Home Mission Committee consisting of 45 Members, of whom one-third shall be from the Maritime Provinces, and two thirds from the rest of the Church; that each of these divisions shall constitute a sub-committee for the transaction of business in its own district.

II. That each section shall be empowered to act separately in conducting the business of its respective district.

III. The operations of the Committee shall have respect to—

1. *Mission Stations*, which, having been recommended by Presbyteries and approved by the Committee, shall be placed on the list of Aid-Receiving Stations and Mission Stations, directly under the care of the H. M. Committee; provided always that no application for aid shall be entertained by the Committee on behalf of any station, unless the Presbytery of the bounds shall have made arrangements with the people for paying, according to their ability, the salary of the missionary; and the Presbytery shall see to the implementing of such engagements. And the Committee shall make like arrangements in the case of stations under its care.

2. Mission Stations reported by Presbyteries, but not receiving aid.

3. Not self-sustaining, but prepared to contribute at least $100 per annum, at the rate of at least $1.50 per communicant, or $6 per family, and in which, in the judgment of the Presbytery, a fixed pastor is desirable. Such congregations having made application to the Presbytery of the bounds, and furnished satisfactory information in regard to their statistics, and financial position and pro

spects, and having received the approval of the Presbytery, (which application and information shall also be laid before the sub Committee,) may be placed on the list of congregations receiving supplement.

Provided always, that congregations at present receiving aid shall continue on the list in the meantime, but that Presbyteries be instructed to use diligence in order to bring up such congregations to the rate of salary and contribution required by the next regulation.

4 That the minimum stipend, exclusive of manse, to be paid to the ministers of supplemented congregations, from all sources, shall be seven hundred dollars per annum.

In accepting the foregoing Resolution, it is earnestly recommended that during the term that must intervene before that recommendation can be adopted and enforced, strenuous exertions should be made by the Presbyteries throughout the Church, to bring the stipends of all congregations, not supplemented, up to, at least, the same standard.

IV. MISSIONARIES AND FUNDS.

1. The list of Missionaries shall consist of ordained Ministers and Licentiates of this Church; and Students of Divinity, and Catechists, duly approved as the Assembly may direct. Each of these Missionaries shall be recommended to the Committee by some Presbytery.

2. There shall be two Central Funds,- one for the support of Mission Stations and for Home Mission work generally, the other for the assistance of congregations requiring supplement, --to be known respectively as the Home Mission Fund and the Supplemental Fund. These funds shall consist of all moneys contributed for their support, whether by contributions from the Congregations, Mission Stations, and Sabbath Schools of the Church, or by grants of money from Foreign Churches, or of moneys accruing from other sources, such as legacies, donations and other kindred contributions.

V. THE DUTIES OF THE COMMITTEE SHALL BE

1. To prepare and send down to Presbyteries and Missionaries, blank forms for their reports, so as to ascertain the peculiar circumstances, necessities, and generally the state of the Mission Stations and Supplemented Congregations throughout the Church.

2. The sub-Committees shall consider the Reports thus rendered by Presbyteries, and distribute the Missionaries among the Presbyteries, as, in view of the detailed information before them, may be deemed advisable.

3. The sub-Committees shall give such aid to Mission Stations and Supplemented Congregations, in paying their Missionaries or Ministers, as, in view of the detailed information before them, may be deemed advisable.

4. The General Committee shall prepare a full Annual Report of all the Home Mission and Supplemental operations of the Church, to be submitted to the Assembly, and to publish, from time to time, such information as may serve to call forth the interest and liberality of the Church.

5. The sub-Committees shall be empowered, in those parts of the Dominion which are not within the bounds of any Presbytery, to establish Mission Stations and conduct Missionary operations directly.

6. That, in Mission fields placed directly under the Home Mission Committees, and in new and destitute fields of wide extent within the bounds of Presbyteries, the sub-Committees shall be empowered—acting in the latter case in concert with the Presbytery of the bounds—to secure the services of suitable Missionaries, who may be willing to occupy them for a term of years, and to pay them in excess of the ordinary salary paid to Missionaries.

7. The Committee shall not be responsible for the salary of Missionaries beyond the amount of aid promised to the Stations or Congregations by it, and for the time during which they may have laboured in said Stations or Congregations.

8. The amount of salary to be paid by each Congregation, Station or group of Stations, shall be determined by the Presbytery of the bounds, and specified to the sub-Committees, and it is recommended that a minimum be aimed at by the Presbytery and sub-Committees conjointly, of eight dollars ($8) per Sabbath for an ordained Minister or a Licentiate, with board; for a Student of Divinity, during the summer, at the rate of six dollars ($6) per Sabbath, with board and travelling expenses to the field of labour; and for a Catechist, five dollars ($5) per Sabbath, with board.

9. The amount of aid granted to any Congregation receiving Supplement, shall in no case exceed the amount necessary to make the salary of the Minister seven hundred dollars. But the sub-Committees are empowered to supplement the salaries of ordained Ministers, engaged in Mission work in towns and cities, beyond that amount.

10. That the Supplement of all aid-receiving Congregations shall be calculated from the first day of the ecclesiastical year, and that the Presbyteries be instructed to make their reports accordingly—supplements being payable half-yearly.

11. That Presbyteries be instructed, at an ordinary meeting previous to the first of October in each year, to revise the list of Mission Stations and Supplemented Congregations, and make such changes as they may deem necessary, reporting the amended lists to the sub-Committee, and that the lists thus amended, form the basis of the operations of the Committee for the then current year.

VI. GENERAL REGULATIONS.

1. Presbyteries are enjoined to furnish information to the sub-Committees in accordance with the requirements of the above scheme, and to co-operate with the Committee.

2. All Congregations and Mission Stations shall be enjoined to make an annual contribution to each of the funds.

3. The travelling expenses of Members of Committee shall be borne equally by the two funds, and the cost of all exploring and aggressive Missionary work, undertaken and sanctioned by Presbyteries, shall be defrayed out of the Home Mission Fund.

4. In regard to arrears due by Supplemented Congregations to their Ministers, these congregations shall be required to report to this Committee, through the Presbytery, in the form provided, before the beginning of each ecclesiastical year, the amount paid by them as stipend during the previous twelve months; and that in cases where the amount falls short of the stipend promised by them, power be given to suspend the payment of the supplement until the arrearages are liquidated.

VII. PROBATIONERS AND VACANCIES.

1. That the distribution of Probationers shall be left in the hands of a sub-Committee, appointed from the Home Mission Committee. The roll of Probationers shall consist of Preachers who have been licensed less than five years, and Ministers who have been loosed from their charges, or who have been receiving appointments from the Committee less than four years, (reckoning, in both cases, from the date of their admission to the roll.)

3. Preachers who have been on the roll for five years, and Ministers for four years without settlement, shall have their names removed from the list: allowance being made in all cases of sickness, leave of absence, or time occupied in the public business of the Church or Mission work, apart from fulfilling regular appointments. Provided, also, that the Assembly alone may order the retention of a Probationer's name on the list beyond the above specified times.

4. That Ministers or Probationers, who have retired from the Ministry and entered on some other calling for a time, shall not have their names put on the list of distribution without the permission of the General Assembly to that effect.

5. Probationers, concerning whom complaints of inefficiency have been received from their Presbyteries by the Committee, may have their appointments withdrawn till a decision of the Assembly shall be given in the case.

6. As soon as a Preacher is licensed, the Presbytery reports the fact to the Committee on Distribution, to whom is entrusted the distribution of Probationers among the Presbyteries of the Church.

7. When a Congregation desire a hearing of a particular Probationer, or a further hearing of one formerly heard, they shall communicate their desire to the Presbytery, and if the Presbytery see it expedient to concur in it, the application is forwarded to the Convener of the Distributing Committee, and as soon as practicable effect is given to the request; it being understood that in case any extra expense is incurred by the probationer, it is to be defrayed by the Congregation in addition to the ordinary allowance.

8. When a preacher accepts a call, he shall give notice to the Convener of the Distributing Committee, and no further appointments are made to him; but he shall be required to fulfil the appointments already made, unless relieved by the Presbytery to whose bounds he has been designated.

9. Missionaries and Probationers shall be required to labour in the localities and discharge the duties assigned to them by the Presbyteries, at whose disposal they may have been placed by the Home Mission Committee.

These duties comprise, generally, conducting Public Worship on Sabbath, and Prayer Meetings in the course of the week, teaching Bible Classes, organizing and fostering Sabbath Schools, visitation of families—and especially of the sick—so far as circumstances render advisable.

10. Missionaries and Probationers are required to submit to Presbyteries written reports of their labours.

VIII. RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. That the General Assembly take into consideration the commencement of the Ecclesiastical year.

2. That sub-Treasurers be appointed, if necessary, in the sub-Committees on Home Mission and Supplemental Funds,

3. That the Committee on correspondence with other Churches present the claims of our Home Missions upon the Presbyterian Churches of Great Britain and Ireland.

V. FOREIGN MISSIONS.

This subject led to no difference of opinion. and the undermentioned deliverance, prepared by a sub-Committee, was adopted unanimously—

1. There shall be a central fund, to be designated the Foreign Mission Fund, from which the operations of the Church in the Foreign Mission department of her work shall be sustained; and all the Congregations and Home Mission Stations throughout the Church shall be required to make an annual contribution to this Fund.

2. There shall be one Board appointed annually by the General Assembly for the direction of the Foreign Mission work of the Church, and it shall be the duty of said Board—1. To administer the funds provided for Foreign Mission purposes, and render an account of the same to the General Assembly at its Annual Meeting. 2. To take the oversight of the Missionaries now engaged, or who may hereafter be engaged in the service of the Church, and to issue, from time to time, to said Missionaries, such orders and instructions as may be deemed necessary. 3. To seek out such Ministers, or others as may be willing to undertake Foreign Mission work, to judge of their qualifications, and, where necessary, to conduct their preparatory training, and to appoint them to their particular fields of labour.

3. The Foreign Mission Board shall in the meantime be divided into two, sections, one comprising the members in Ontario, Quebec, and the North-west and the others the members in the Maritime Provinces, each of these Sections to have special charge of the Missions now existing in connection with the Western and Eastern portions of the Church, respectively, and such other Missions as may hereafter, by the General Assembly be assigned to any, or either of them, and the two Sections of that Board shall, during the year, hold, at least, one joint meeting, and shall combine the reports of their operations in their respective Sections, to be submitted year by year, to the General Assembly.

4. The travelling expenses of Members of the Foreign Mission Board, in attending meetings of the Board, with all other incidental charges, connected

with the transaction of the business entrusted to it, shall be defrayed from the Foreign Mission Fund.

FRENCH EVANGELIZATION.

On this matter being brought up, the following deliverance was adopted:

"That, inasmuch as the General Assembly has taken definite action on this subject, the Committee is not called upon to consider it."

VI. COLLEGES, EDUCATION FOR THE MINISTRY, AND EXAMINATION OF STUDENTS.

The Colleges, regarding whose state and prospects information was obtained by the Committee, were Dalhousie College; Halifax Theological Hall; Morrin College, Quebec; Montreal Presbyterian College; Queen's College, Kingston; Knox College, Toronto; and Manitoba College.

The principal subject of discussion was the mode of support—whether there should be a common College Fund, to be raised under the direction of the General Assembly, and from which the various Theological Halls should be sustained, as far as necessary, or whether there should be an assignment of territory to each College. It was found that a majority voted for the former, whilst several declined to vote. But in the meantime the following report of a sub-Committee, appointed to consider the whole subject, was adopted as the recommendation of the Committee to the General Assembly.

I. THEOLOGICAL HALLS.

The following statements were made regarding the present equipment and necessities of Theological Halls.

1. Knox College has a staff of three Professors, one Lecturer, two Tutors, and one Lecturer on Elocution.

The estimated expenditure (including portion of retiring allowance to Dr. Willis) is eleven thousand dollars ($11,000). The amount invested is six thousand two hundred dollars (6,200), yielding a revenue of about three hundred and seventy dollars ($370) annually. The remainder of the expenditure is required to be raised by collections.

2. The Theological Hall of Queen's College has two Professors. The amount required from collections to meet present expenditure is two thousand dollars ($2,000).

3. The Montreal Presbyterian College has two Professors, one Lecturer, one Tutor, and a Teacher of Elocution.

The estimated expenditure is eight thousand dollars ($8,000), of which the sum of fifteen hundred dollars ($1,500) is provided by endowment, leaving six thousand five hundred dollars ($6,500) to be raised by collections.

4. Morrin College asks no aid at present from the Church.

5. The Theological Hall at Halifax has three Professors. The salary of one Professor is guaranteed for a time by the Church of Scotland, in the expectation that an early effort will be made to endow the Institution.

Estimating the salaries of Professors at two thousand dollars each, the amount required to be raised by collection is five thousand dollars ($5,000).

The total sum required in order to maintain the existing state of things is, therefore, about twenty-five thousand dollars ($25,000). Should an additional Professor be appointed in Queen's College and Montreal College respectively, the amount would be increased to about $30,000.

II. RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. It is expedient that the territorial principle should, for the present, be adopted in the scheme for supporting the Theological Institutions of the Church.

2. The congregations in Maritime Provinces shall be the constituency for the support of the Theological Hall at Halifax.

3 The congregations in the Province of Quebec, and those in the Province of Ontario, on the east side of the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Railway, shall contribute towards the support of the Presbyterian College at Montreal; and those congregations west of the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Railway, shall contribute towards the support of Queen's College and Knox College.

4. Inasmuch as Morrin College seeks no aid from the Church at present, the Committee make no recommendation concerning the mode of its support.

III. THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND EXAMINATION OF STUDENTS.

After some conversation on the practice of the several Churches regarding Education for the Ministry and Examination of Students, it was agreed to appoint a small sub-committee to draft regulations on these subjects.

IV. MANITOBA COLLEGE.

With reference to Manitoba College, as no opportunity had been afforded to the sub-Committee on Colleges of meeting with the sub-Committee on Home Missions, as had been directed, it was agreed that the resolution of the Committee, given below, be carried out, and that Manitoba College continue to be supported in the meantime from Home Mission funds,

After lengthened deliberation the following was adopted as the recommendation of the Committee.

1. "That Manitoba College should be maintained in efficiency.

2. "That, while in the meantime it is necessary that the funds of the Home Mission Committee shall be drawn upon for the support of this Institution, it is not desirable that this College shall continue to be a permanent charge upon the Home Mission Fund."

VII. (1.) MINISTERS' WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.

This subject was, after explanations had been given regarding the Funds of the several Churches, referred to a Sub-Committee, who brought in a Report, which, after certain amendments had been made, was adopted, as follows, and the Committee resolved to recommend accordingly:—

1. That one Fund be created for the whole Church.

2. That the terms of the Act of the Province of Quebec, 38 Victoria, chapter lxi., relating to the Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund of the late Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, providing, that in the event of the amalgamation of that fund with the funds of the other Churches that were parties to the recent Union, "no widow or orphan of a minister who had formerly belonged to the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, shall receive less annuities from the fund of the United Church than would have pertained to them in terms of the scale in force by this Board at the date of Union, if the said Churches had not united," be accepted; and an amalgamation of the four funds be effected.

3. That in addition to the revenue derived from the capital sum, formed by the uniting of the four funds presently existing, the fund shall be maintained by an annual contribution from each minister and congregation.

4. That the rate of ministerial contributions shall be as follows:—Ministers of this Church at present not connected with any fund, and any ministers who after this date shall be admitted to participate in the benefits of the fund, under 35 years of age, shall pay into the fund annually $8.00; such as are between 35 and 40 years of age, $10.00; those who are between 40 and 50 years of age shall pay $12.00 per annum. The application of any minister over 50 years of age to be admitted to the benefits of the fund shall be made the subject of special consideration.

5. That the allowances to widows from the common fund be equal; the case of the widows of the ministers formerly belonging to the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, as already provided for, only excepted; provided also that no widow at present receiving an annuity from any of the funds, nor the widow of any minister of the united Church, who had formerly belonged to the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland, shall receive a less allowance than $150 a-year.

6. That the following be the scale of annuities payable to widows and orphans:—Each widow shall receive $150 per annum. If a widow have children, in addition to her own annuity, she shall receive for one child $20 per annum, for two children $36 per annum, for three children $50 per annum, and $10 per annum for each additional child; but she shall not receive anything from the fund for boys over 18 years of age, or for girls over 21 years of age.

7. In the event of the decease of both parents, if there be only one orphan, the Board shall pay for the benefit of such orphan $150.00; if there are two orphans, $20.00 shall be added to the allowance made for one; if there are three orphans, $16.00 more shall be paid on their behalf; and if there are four orphans, $14.00 shall be added to the allowance; and $10.00 shall be given for each additional orphan; but no allowance shall be made for boys over 18 years of age, or for girls over 21 years of age.

8. That, on behalf of Professors, Foreign Missionaries, Missionaries under the French Evangelization Committee, Ministers on the Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund, or who have retired from active duty, with permission of the

Church, and for whom no aid is sought from the fund for Aged and Infirm Ministers, and the Agents of the Church, who shall be on the fund of the United Church, the sum of twelve dollars shall, in addition to the personal rate, after the amalgamation of the funds, be paid to this fund, from the funds with which they are respectively connected.

9. Any Minister withdrawing from the Church, shall continue to enjoy his rights in this fund on condition of his paying annually into the fund such sum as an actuary may determine to be equitable in addition to personal rates.

10. That it be an instruction to Presbyteries to use all lawful endeavours to secure that every Minister, when he is inducted into a charge, shall become connected with the fund.

11. That any Minister, who may at the time of his induction decline to join the fund, may be allowed to do so within four years from the date of his induction, on condition of his contributing a sum equivalent to the total payments he should have made, provided he had connected himself with the fund at his induction, together with an addition of one dollar a year for each year he has declined to contribute to the fund after his induction.

12. The rates of payment may be revised once in every five years.

13. That an actuary be employed to examine the funds presently existing, and report to the committee as to the most equitable way in which the amalgamation can be effected, and that the Treasurers of the several funds be instructed to furnish the data which such actuary may require.

14. That the General Assembly be asked to appoint a Committee to obtain the legislation necessary to amalgamate the four funds now in existence in the Church, on the terms that may be agreed upon.

VII. (2). AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS' FUND.

The same sub-Committee submitted a Report on this fund, which, after being considered, was adopted as the recommendation of the Committee to the Assembly.

1. That there shall be a fund for the whole church.

2. That it shall be sustained by annual congregational contributions, donations and bequests.

3. That payments out of the fund shall be made according to the following scale:

(1). When a Minister is allowed by the Assembly to retire after ten years service, he shall receive one hundred dollars ($100) a year, and ten dollars a year for each additional year, up to forty years' service, if the state of the fund permits.

(2). The case of a Minister permitted to retire after less than ten years' service, shall be made the subject of special consideration by the Assembly.

4. That it be an instruction to Presbyteries, when accepting the resignation of Ministers, permitted by the Assembly to retire, to secure, when practicable, a suitable retiring allowance to such Ministers, from the congregations which they had served.

VIII. ECCLESIASTICAL PROCEDURE, &c.

Under this head were included Ecclesiastical Procedure, Synodical Functions and Business, Standing Orders for the conduct of business in the Church Courts, Regulations anent the Records of Church Courts, the Formula and Questions to office-bearers, and admission of Ministers from other Churches.

These several matters were entrusted to a Sub-committee, whose Report was, after certain changes had been made, adopted as the recommendation of the Committee, and is as follows:—

I. That the questions to be put to office-bearers at their Ordination or Induction be—

1. Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God and the only infalible rule of faith and manners?

2. Do you believe the Westminster Confession of Faith as adopted by this Church in the Basis of Union, to be founded on and agreeable to the Word of God, and in your teaching will you faithfully adhere thereto?

3. Do you believe the Government of this Church by Sessions, Presbyteries, Synods, and General Assemblies to be founded on and agreeable to the Word of God, and do you engage as a minister of this Church to maintain and defend the same?

4. Do you own the purity of worship at present authorized by this Church, and will you conform thereto?

5. Do you promise to give a dutiful attendance in the Courts of this Church, to submit yourself in the spirit of meekness to the admonitions of this Presbytery, to be subject to it and the superior judicatories, to follow no divisive course, but maintain according to your power the unity and peace of the Church.

6. Are zeal for the glory of God, love to the Lord Jesus Christ, and desire of saving souls, so far as you know your own heart, your great motives and chief inducements to enter the office of the holy ministry.

7. Have you directly or indirectly used any undue means to procure this call?

8. Do you engage in the strength and grace of the Lord Jesus Christ to live a holy and circumspect life, to rule well your own house, and faithfully and diligently to discharge all the duties of the ministry to the edification of the body of Christ?

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT TO CANDIDATES FOR LICENSE TO PREACH THE GOSPEL.

Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, as above.

5. Do you engage in the strength and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ to live a holy and circumspect life, and faithfully to preach the gospel, as you may have opportunity?

6. Do you promise to submit yourself in the Lord to the several judicatories of this Church?

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT TO ELDERS BEFORE ORDINATION.

Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, (omitting "in your teaching" in No. 2) and substituting in No. 3, "ruling elder" for "minister."

5. In accepting the office of Elder, do you engage in the strength and grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, faithfully and diligently to perform the duties thereof; watching over the flock of which you are called to be an overseer, and in all things showing yourself a pattern of good works?

QUESTIONS TO BE PUT TO DEACONS BEFORE ORDINATION.

Numbers 1, 2, 3, 4, (*Mutatis mutandis.*)

5. In accepting the office of Deacon, do you engage in the strength and grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, faithfully and diligently to perform the duties thereof?

II. That the Formula to be signed by Ministers and Licentiates, Elders and Deacons, be:

"I hereby declare that I believe the Westminster Confession of Faith, as adopted by this Church as the basis of Union, and the Government of the Church by Sessions, Presbyteries, Synods and General Assemblies, to be founded on and agreeable to the Word of God: that I own the purity of Worship at present authorised by this Church: and that I engage to adhere faithfully to the doctrine of the said Confession, to maintain and defend the said Government, to conform to the said worship, and to submit to the discipline of this Church, and to follow no divisive course from the present order established therein."

III. That the Standing Orders of the Supreme Court be:—

1. Reports of Ordinations, Inductions, Licensure, Deaths, Demissions, Suspensions, Depositions of Ministers, and of the erection or dissolution of congregations within the respective Synods, shall be sent up by Clerks of these Courts so as to be in the hands of the Clerk of Assembly at least eight days before the Assembly meets.

A large portion of the second Sederunt, and such portions of other diets as the Moderator of Assembly may think proper, shall be spent in devotional services.

2. There shall be a Standing Committee on Business, consisting of the Clerks of the Assembly, and of Synods and Presbyteries, who may be Commissioners, who shall arrange all such business as may be requisite previous to the first diet of the annual meeting of the Assembly. This Committee, together with fifteen members to be appointed by the Assembly, shall constitute the Committee on Bills and Overtures. The Assembly Clerks shall be joint-Conveners of these Committees. After the arrangement of business has been reported by the Committee of Bills and Overtures, and sanctioned by the Assembly, the Clerks of the Assembly shall cause a docket of business to be printed for the information of members.

3. All papers shall be transmitted to one of the Clerks of the Assembly at least eight days before the meeting of Assembly, and all such papers shall pass through the Committee of Bills and Overtures before presentation to the Assembly.

4. In order that all documents coming before the Assembly may be preserved in a form convenient for reference, Reports, Overtures, References, Appeals, Extract Minutes, and all other matters whatsoever, intended to be submitted to the Assembly, shall be written on foolscap paper, with sufficient margins so as to admit of their being bound in volumes; and, for the sake of securing fully the ends of Justice, parties who have causes to bring before the Assembly, are recommended to print copies of the same in numbers sufficient for the use of members, and in a shape suitable for binding along with the printed Minutes of Assembly.

5. The Conveners of Standing Committees shall give in their annual reports to the Committee of Bills and Overtures, if possible, not later than the second sederunt of the meeting of the Assembly. If these are in printed form they shall be in a shape suitable for binding along with the printed Minutes of Assembly.

6. The Assembly shall appoint a Committee, of not less than two from each Synod, and not more than four from any one Synod, to nominate members for the Standing Committees of the Assembly.

IV. THAT THE REGULATIONS ANENT THE RECORDS OF CHURCH COURTS BE—

1. The pages shall be numbered in words at length as well as in figures.

2. Every page shall be signed by the Clerk, and the Record of each sederunt by the Moderator and Clerk. In case of the death or removal of the Moderator or Clerk, the Record shall afterwards be signed by the then acting Moderator or Clerk, *cum nota* of the cause, in presence of the Court.

3. The time and place of meeting shall be minutely stated in words.

4. Every page shall have a suitable margin on which the items of recorded business, etc. shall be indexed.

5. The place and date of each meeting shall be shortly indicated on the margin at the top of the page.

6. Church Courts shall take special care that their Records are carefully and correctly written. All erasures or other changes in the Record shall be noted on the margin with the initials of the Clerk's name.

7. All sums of money shall be given in words as well as in figures.

8. No unnecessary vacant spaces shall be left between the Minutes of Sederunts.

V. THAT THE BARRIER ACT BE—

1. No proposed law or rule relative to matters of doctrine, discipline, government, or worship, shall become a permanent enactment until the same has been submitted to Presbyteries for consideration. Such consideration shall be given by each Presbytery, at an ordinary meeting, or a special meeting held for the purpose; and an extract minute of the Presbytery's judgment shall be sent to the Clerk of the General Assembly, before the next meeting of that Court.

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2. The Assembly, if it sees cause, may, by a majority of two-thirds of those present, pass such proposed law or rule into an Interim Act, which shall possess the force of law until the Presbyteries have, as herein required, reported their judgment upon it to the next General Assembly.

3. If a majority of the Presbyteries of the Church express their approval, the Assembly may pass such proposed law or rule into a standing law of the Church. If a majority of the Presbyteries express disapproval, the Assembly shall reject such proposed law or rule, or again remit it to the Presbyteries.

6. That the Sub-Committee be continued, with power to divide itself into several parts, for the mature consideration of the matters entrusted to it, and that the name of Rev. G. M. Grant be added to the Committee.

The Sub-Committee on Ecclesiastical Procedure, etc., is as follows :—Dr. G. Bell, Convener ; Principal Snodgrass, Principal Caven, Dr. Waters, Dr. Paterson, Professor Mackerras, Professor Gregg, Messrs. T. Sedgwick, J. Middlemiss, J. Laing, W. Reid, R. Campbell, W. Fraser, J. G. Robb, and G. M. Grant, Ministers, and Mr. T. W. Taylor and Judge Stevens, Elders.

IX. MEMORIAL FUND.

This matter was remitted to a Sub-Committee, consisting of the Rev. W. Fraser and the Rev. J. Gray, to mature a scheme to be submitted to the next meeting of the General Committee, when it could be fully and carefully considered.

X. TRAVELLING EXPENSES OF MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

The matter of paying the expenses of the members of Committee was brought up for consideration, and the Committee, while agreed as to the equity of such payment, decided to leave the whole subject in the hands of the General Assembly.

The Committee agreed to hold its next meeting at the call of the Convener, Dr. Topp.

After singing the last three verses of the 122nd Psalm, the Convener, *pro tem.*, the Rev. T. Macpherson, closed the proceedings with prayer, at eleven o'clock, p.m.

P. G. MACGREGOR, }
JOHN GRAY, } *Joint Clerks of Committee.*

SEPTEMBER, 1875.

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